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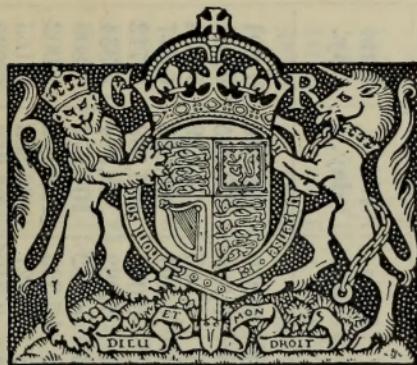
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# BRITISH MUSEUM

Annual Report of the  
General Progress of the Museum and of the  
British Museum (Natural History)  
for the year 1925:

WITH A

Return of the Number of Persons admitted to  
the Museums, and a Statement of the  
Principal Objects added to the  
Collections.

L O N D O N :

PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

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1926.

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NUMBER OF PERSONS ADMITTED TO VISIT THE BRITISH MUSEUM AND THE  
BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY).

A.—PERSONS ADMITTED to VIEW the GENERAL COLLECTIONS in the BRITISH MUSEUM in each Year from 1920 to 1925, both Years inclusive.

	1920.			1921.			1922.			1923.			1924.			1925.		
	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.													
January	-	-	64,829	—	75,921	4,194	75,030	3,316	91,639	3,997	78,280	3,670	76,586	1,991	76,586	1,991	76,586	1,991
February	-	-	53,065	—	55,979	3,206	60,657	3,690	77,260	5,660	70,719	3,986	70,435	3,941	70,435	3,941	70,435	3,941
March	-	-	55,420	—	77,126	4,180	67,155	5,090	75,823	5,906	71,205	6,595	74,629	7,034	74,629	7,034	74,629	7,034
April	-	-	86,391	—	70,917	3,946	93,221	7,560	99,225	8,517	90,740	6,191	92,023	6,347	92,023	6,347	92,023	6,347
May	-	-	61,449	—	67,663	5,624	64,201	3,091	89,013	5,117	81,712	6,070	75,508	7,712	75,508	7,712	75,508	7,712
June	-	-	57,586	—	58,447	4,455	67,524	4,466	73,962	4,423	86,876	7,982	83,394	5,334	83,394	5,334	83,394	5,334
July	-	-	84,649	—	71,705	4,494	84,272	9,445	84,171	5,944	119,056	8,052	107,874	7,806	107,874	7,806	107,874	7,806
August	-	-	105,460	—	101,775	5,415	115,036	6,025	112,710	5,594	135,578	15,323	120,102	9,002	120,102	9,002	120,102	9,002
September	-	-	80,173	—	72,227	5,349	76,449	5,694	85,096	7,968	111,048	9,427	96,303	8,165	96,303	8,165	96,303	8,165
October	-	-	68,902	—	71,626	5,088	77,638	6,383	95,399	6,334	95,363	8,219	95,356	6,823	95,356	6,823	95,356	6,823
November	-	-	58,618	4,818	61,001	3,257	65,738	2,665	73,136	3,975	77,048	5,451	73,267	6,039	73,267	6,039	73,267	6,039
December	-	-	67,261	2,862	65,401	2,303	71,433	3,518	70,596	3,528	79,405	3,246	71,047	3,067	71,047	3,067	71,047	3,067

## NUMBER OF VISITS OF STUDENTS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS.

	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
To the Reading Room	-	-	-	164,775	169,902	171,070	173,117
"    Newspaper Room	-	130,198	147,145	159,177	13,647	14,522	14,297
"    Map Room	-	10,407	10,880	10,034	10,941	457	780
"    Department of Manuscripts	-	260	317	344	354	624	8,895
"    Department of Oriental Printed Books and MSS.	-	6,013	7,340	8,136	8,407	8,809	
Print Room	-	-	-	2,579	3,216	3,844	4,305
"    Egyptian and Assyrian Department	-	888	1,926	*5,439	7,494	9,459	4,093
"    Greek and Roman Department	-	2,588	2,300	2,500	2,800	3,000	9,404
"    Galleries of Sculpture	-	368	1,809	354	323	3,500	2,748
"    British and Mediaeval Department	-	552	1,272	1,975	1,274	1,642	2,607
"    Department of Ceramics and Ethnography	-	804	1,213	1,335	1,219	1,478	1,587
"    Coin and Medal Room	-	-	-	-	1,349	1,922	1,727
Total	-	156,802	182,374	196,602	207,017	219,656	224,119

\* The Print Room was re-opened from 3rd August.

B.—PERSONS ADMITTED TO VIEW THE COLLECTIONS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM  
 (NATURAL HISTORY), CROMWELL ROAD,  
 in each Year from 1920 to 1925, inclusive.

	1920.			1921.			1922.			1923.			1924.			1925.		
	Week-day.	Sun-day.																
January	-	-	-	30,823	3,763	35,230	4,985	32,521	4,964	35,566	5,215	32,915	6,190	31,778	3,903			
February	-	-	-	28,439	5,647	26,924	4,684	30,249	6,229	26,921	6,530	28,510	5,715	30,477	5,483			
March	-	-	-	32,363	4,911	43,954	5,909	31,320	7,272	29,580	6,925	28,045	6,063	31,364	7,805			
April	-	-	-	61,832	6,624	32,602	5,392	51,093	8,495	46,590	8,037	43,274	5,775	48,897	5,969			
May	-	-	-	33,090	6,023	31,772	6,987	26,049	3,520	35,134	5,387	31,283	6,017	30,476	6,223			
June	-	-	-	29,880	6,118	31,142	5,226	32,157	4,416	29,690	4,373	43,791	7,980	38,173	4,009			
July	-	-	-	43,423	5,622	34,666	4,860	3,323	8,945	31,604	4,666	40,205	4,820	40,379	4,840			
August	-	-	-	66,408	6,890	53,062	6,488	65,782	6,491	50,667	5,525	61,202	12,295	56,172	7,750			
September	-	-	-	33,595	6,131	30,900	5,629	33,676	7,164	33,163	8,305	36,484	9,498	36,197	6,792			
October	-	-	-	34,780	7,411	29,292	6,055	31,109	7,555	37,633	6,819	35,716	6,588	31,907	6,294			
November	-	-	-	32,015	3,735	32,734	3,301	28,556	4,287	30,487	5,624	26,292	7,669	29,728	7,050			
December	-	-	-	35,622	2,556	35,687	2,995	30,809	4,859	32,533	5,525	29,340	5,131	31,844	3,739			
Total Number of Persons admitted to view the Natural History Collections (including students)	462,270	65,431	417,965	61,511	424,644	74,197	419,569	72,931	437,057	84,844	437,368	69,857						
				527,701	479,476		498,841		492,500		521,901		507,225					

## NUMBER OF VISITS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF STUDY.

	1920.			1921.			1922.			1923.			1924.			1925.		
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Zoology (including Art Students)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Entomology	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Geology	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Mineralogy*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Botany	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
General Library	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	22,049				23,862				26,058				25,744			25,392		26,615

\* Study series directly accessible to the public, and so labelled as to render reference to the staff almost unnecessary, have been arranged in this Department.

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM, BLOOMSBURY.

In the absence of the special inrush of visitors to London caused in 1924 by the first year of the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley, the number of visitors to the British Museum in 1925 did not reach the exceptional figures of the previous year. The total was, however, in excess of that for 1923 and any previous year. The actual figure was 1,109,785,—71,457 less than in 1924, but 14,432 more than in 1923.

On the other hand, the attendances in the Reading Room continued to grow, the number being 173,117, as compared with 171,070. In the Newspaper Room and Departmental Students' Rooms the increase was from 49,242 to 51,002. The figures for 1913 (Reading Room 243,659, other rooms 55,726) are still far from being recovered. Most Departments showed a slight increase.

The temporary exhibitions during the year included French lines engravings of the eighteenth century; Japanese paintings and reproductions of early examples of the art; copies of Indian wall-frescoes at Bāgh; objects brought by Sir Aurel Stein from his third expedition to Central Asia; and books and MSS. illustrating the history of the English printed Bible, in connection with the quatercentenary of Tyndale's first New Testament.

Sunday afternoon lectures were given from April 26 to June 28, and from November 22 to the end of the year, with varying success.

The total number of separate objects incorporated in the collections was 396,001, about 11,000 more than in 1924. There was a marked increase in the number of books and pamphlets, and also in the acquisitions of the Department of British and Mediaeval Antiquities.

The figures are as follows:—

### Printed Books:

Books and Pamphlets	...	...	...	...	36,506
Serials and Parts of Volumes	...	...	...	...	108,330
Maps and Atlases	...	...	...	...	1,078
Music	...	...	...	...	9,473
Newspapers (single numbers)	...	...	...	...	219,354
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	2,691
Manuscripts	...	...	...	...	610
Oriental Printed Books and MSS.	...	...	...	...	2,434
Prints and Drawings	...	...	...	...	4,003
Prints and Drawings (Oriental)	...	...	...	...	188
Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities	...	...	...	...	1,664
Greek and Roman Antiquities	...	...	...	...	1,307
British and Mediaeval Antiquities	...	...	...	...	3,027
Ceramics and Ethnography	...	...	...	...	2,178
Coins and Medals	...	...	...	...	3,158

Total 396,001

Among the most important accessions of the year, apart from the third instalment of prints from the Albertina Collection at Vienna, and the second instalment of the Gaster Hebrew MSS., which have been mentioned in previous Reports, the two which stand out most con-

spicuously are an admirable marble statuette of Socrates, of about 300 B.C., and a very fine collection of French engravings of the best period of the 18th century, in the purchase of which valuable assistance was received from Messrs. Agnew.

Another very interesting acquisition is a set of phonograph records of the voice of the first Lord Tennyson, made in a very early form of the instrument, in reciting some of his best-known poems. These were presented by his son, the present Lord Tennyson.

In the Department of Printed Books the most important single purchase of the year was a Sarum Book of Hours, printed at Rouen in 1914. An exceptionally rare Virgil of 1475, a Beaune Breviary of 1517, and ten works by Erasmus, collected by the late Frederic Seeböhm and presented by Miss Seeböhm, may also be mentioned.

The Department of Manuscripts acquired a fine group of Greek papyri, mostly of the 3rd cent. B.C., a Camaldolesian Missal of 1240 and a Dominican Missal of the 14th cent.; a copy of the earlier (unpublished) version of Sidney's *Arcadia*, presented by Miss M. E. Davies; nineteen bills of the Keeper of the Gatehouse Prison, including references to some of the Gunpowder Plot conspirators, purchased with the aid of subscriptions collected by Sir I. Gollancz; French historical documents from the Crawford collection; nearly 500 letters of George Sand; the autograph MS. of part of Jane Austen's *Persuasion* (the only surviving fragment of the six greater novels) and some other papers by her; and the political papers of two Prime Ministers, Lord Aberdeen and Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman, presented respectively by the Marquess of Aberdeen and the late Lord Pentland.

The Department of Oriental Printed Books and Manuscripts, in addition to the second instalment of the Gaster Collection, acquired a collection of Khotanese MSS., presented by Mr. C. P. Skrine; six Turki MSS., presented by Sir Aurel Stein; and a 13th cent. Persian miniature from a MS. of the *Shahnameh*.

The two principal acquisitions of the Department of Prints and Drawings have been mentioned above, viz., the final instalment of the prints obtained from the Albertina, and the splendid series of French engravings of the best period, including a set of 42 proofs of the "Monument du Costume," after Freudeberg and Moreau le Jeune, and two colour-prints by Janinet after Fragonard. Other accessions include a drawing of St. Christopher by Altdorfer, presented by Mr. Granville Tyser; a self-portrait of Gustave Courbet, presented by the National Art-Collections Fund, assisted by Mr. S. Courtauld and other friends of the Museum; two drawings by a talented young French artist, Eugène Lemercier, killed in the war, presented by his mother; a large number of prints of the Revolutionary and Napoleonic period, from the Crawford Collection; and another instalment of the works of living artists collected by the Contemporary Art Society.

The Egyptian and Assyrian Department has acquired no single object of outstanding importance, but special mention may be made of a group of Sumerian antiquities from Warka; a collection of early Babylonian tablets; an interesting group of Egyptian amulets, from the Bethell Collection; and a fine miscellaneous collection of Egyptian antiquities, including a predynastic pottery figure of a woman.

The Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities has one quite outstanding acquisition, the statuette of Socrates already mentioned, which was purchased with the help of the National Art-Collections Fund, Mr. G. Eumorfopoulos, and Dr. Walter Leaf. It is the finest extant portrait of the philosopher, in which the grotesqueness of his

features is not allowed to overpower the dignified and intellectual character of the head. The Department was also fortunate in obtaining an almost unique example of Roman Republican sculpture, non-Etruscan and un-hellenized, in a cinerary urn, carved in very high relief with a representation of an equestrian procession to a sacred shrine. An Athenian marble lekythos and a bronze figure of a young Etruscan warrior also deserve mention.

In the Department of British and Mediaeval Antiquities the following accessions deserve special mention: A gold bowl of the Hallstatt period, from Budapest; a group of Roman objects found together at Felmingham, in Norfolk, in 1844; a bronze bowl, engraved with mythological subjects in the 12th century, and found in the Severn near Tewkesbury (with another already in the Museum) in 1824, and now presented by Miss Lawrence in memory of her grandfather, W. L. Lawrence, Esq.; and an exceptionally fine English seal of the 13th century, found at Cannington in Somerset. An interesting acquisition of a different kind was a replica of the seal of the Confederate States of America, presented by Mrs. Norman V. Randolph on behalf of the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

The Department of Ceramics and Ethnography was fortunate in securing a considerable number of valuable specimens of Chinese art. These included a model of a bullock-cart in red pottery (Sui dynasty); a silver statuette of a lady (Tang dynasty); four beautiful examples of Sung ware, a bulb-bowl, a vase, and two water-pots, presented by the Keechong Hong, of Hongkong; and a porcelain ewer of the same period, presented by Messrs. Yamanaka. Five pieces of Worcester porcelain were presented by Viscount Dillon. A group of ceremonial and ethnographical objects from Tibet and Bhutan was presented by Mrs. Lewin; and a large gold plaque from Ashanti, for wearing by a royal messenger, was presented by Sir Bignell Elliott, K.B.E.

The Department of Coins and Medals acquired three Greek coins of exceptional rarity, viz., a silver didrachm from Olbia, of the 5th cent. B.C.; a silver tetradrachm from Scione, of about 480 B.C., of which only three other specimens are known; and a gold stater, apparently unique, bearing the name of Tachos, issued for the payment of Greek mercenaries in Egypt during the rising of Tachos against Artaxerxes II. in 361 B.C. Roman coins included 400, mainly of Carausius, from the Linchmere find, presented by Mrs. G. H. Hoyle and Miss F.E. Abbott, and five gold coins from the Arras find; while foreign mediaeval coins were represented by a selection of gold coins of the Low Countries from the Eeckeren hoard.

Excavations were continued by the joint expedition of the British Museum and the University Museum, Philadelphia, on the site of Ur of the Chaldees, under the leadership of Mr. C. L. Woolley. Much work was done in clearing the terrace underlying the great Ziggurat, and the adjoining temple of the Moon-goddess and another sanctuary and house of a priestess. Tablets recording the finances of the temple were plentiful, but the most important single object found was a very large stela recording the buildings and irrigation works of the king Ur-Engur (3rd millennium B.C.).

The following are the principal publications issued during the year:—

Catalogue of Additions to the MSS., 1911-1915.

Reproductions from Illuminated MSS., 3rd series (new edition).

Catalogue of Engraved British Portraits, vol. VI.

Cuneiform Texts from Babylonian Tablets, part 38.

Cuneiform Texts from Cappadocian Tablets, part 3.

Hieroglyphic Texts from Egyptian Stelae, part 7.  
Corpus Vasorum Antiquorum, fasc. 1.  
Catalogue of Vases, vol. I, part 1.  
Short Guide to the Parthenon (new edition).  
Guide to early Iron Age Antiquities (new edition).  
Handbook to the Ethnographical Collections (new edition).  
Chinese Pottery Statue of a Lohan (new edition).

Postcard Sets :—

London before the Great Fire.  
Flemish Calendar of the early 16th cent. (two sets coloured, one plain).  
The English Printed Bible.  
Colour-prints by Hokusai (two sets, coloured).  
Colour-prints by Hiroshige (coloured).

FREDERIC G. KENYON,  
*Director and Principal Librarian.*

BRITISH MUSEUM,  
1st April, 1926.

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## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM.

The total number of visitors to the Natural History Museum during the year 1925 was 507,225, a decrease of 14,676 as compared with 1924, entirely due to a falling off in the attendance on Sunday afternoons, which was 69,857, as against 84,844 in the previous year. The number of persons present at the demonstrations of the Official Guide during the year was 15,682, an increase of 1,797 on the number, 13,885, for 1924. The average daily attendance for all open days was 1,397 ; for week days, 1,406 ; and for Sunday afternoons, 1,343.

Courses of Swiney Lectures were delivered by Prof. W. T. Gordon in February, March and April on "The Geological History of Plants," and in November and December on "Geology and Civilization." The average attendance was 128 per lecture for the first course and 146 for the second.

Lord Rothschild, F.R.S., and Dr. J. Waterston represented the Trustees at the International Congress of Entomology at Zurich in July ; Dr. W. T. Calman, F.R.S., at the Annual Conference of the Museums Association, in the same month, at Exeter ; Mr. M. A. C. Hinton at the Congress of the Royal Sanitary Institute at Edinburgh, also in July ; and Mr. R. Kirkpatrick at the Public Works Congress of the British Waterworks Association held in London in November.

The members of the Imperial Entomological Conference which met in London during the summer were entertained at the Museum on 11 June.

*The Museum Building.*

The Central and North Halls were cleaned, and, where necessary, re-decorated, during the year. The washing of the painted ceilings disclosed designs which had long been invisible, and was a notable success.

The Trustees have been confronted with difficult and at present unsolved problems as to accommodation, the Department of Entomology being the section of the Museum most seriously concerned. The immense growth of the Insect Collections, aided by an increasing realization of the economic importance of Insects, has resulted in a congestion both of storage space and working room, which is a real hindrance to all concerned, whether members of the staff, outside scientific workers, or students. Resolutions urging the provision of increased accommodation and staff were communicated to the Trustees by the Imperial Entomological Congress in June, 1925, and by a meeting of British Zoologists in January, 1926. In other Departments further accommodation is urgently needed for the exhibition and storage of whale specimens and for the storage of fossils ; and the large accessions which may be expected in the near future as the result of the "Discovery" Expedition and of the East Africa Expedition will make the problem as acute in those Departments as it has become in the Department of Entomology. This shortage of accommodation acts as a direct check on scientific investigation, and it is therefore much to be hoped that means may soon be found to provide these necessary additions to the building.

*The Collections.*

In all Departments the work of incorporating acquisitions, determining specimens, investigating and describing new species, and where necessary and possible revising the classification of groups, continued to occupy most of the time of the scientific staff.

The transference of the bulk of the spirit collections to the new Spirit Building left room for a re-arrangement of the collection of fishes in the old Spirit Building. In the Department of Geology much attention and labour were devoted to a reorganisation of storage accommodation with a view to minimizing, as far as possible, the difficulties resulting from the congestion to which reference has already been made. The re-arrangement of the collection of rocks was continued throughout the year in the Mineral Department, and the labelling of economically important minerals in the Exhibition Gallery was revised and improved.

The Trustees have to acknowledge the generosity of Dr. W. Rushton Parker, whose contribution of £240 made possible the mounting of the huge skeleton of *Elephas antiquus* found at Upnor, near Chatham.

*Advisory and Economic Activities.*

Sir Sidney Harmer continued to act as Vice-Chairman of the Colonial Office Committee responsible for the direction of the "Discovery" Expedition, which left England on 5 October to investigate whaling problems at South Georgia and elsewhere in the Dependencies of the Falkland Islands. Much information on the subject of whaling continued to reach the Museum through the Colonial Office and from other sources.

Numerous documents were received, mainly through the Colonial Office and the Foreign Office, dealing with questions relating to the protection of the native fauna of various parts of the world and especially of Africa. They indicate that too much destruction of big game is going on in many parts of the world. In Angola there is cause for fearing that the Giant Sable Antelope may become extinct; and evidence was obtained of a steady reduction in the numbers of elephants in Liberia and Abyssinia. New game reserves were reported to have been established in the Belgian Congo and the Sudan; but the difficulty of preventing poaching is everywhere great. One of the reports referred to experiments in the domestication of African elephants in the Belgian Congo, and it was stated that those from the grasslands were much more easily tamed than the forest elephants.

The Museum was, as usual, consulted by various Government Departments, and especially by the Colonial Office, in regard to problems connected with Natural History. Advice was given to the Admiralty as to measures for dealing with the Cocoa Moth, the larvae of which were doing considerable damage to chocolate manufactured in one of the naval victualling yards. The Government of Bermuda was advised not to entertain a proposal for the importation of owls for the purpose of controlling rats and mice; and information was given regarding the breeding habits of turtles, in connexion with proposed protective legislation in the Seychelles.

Mr. C. Tate Regan, F.R.S., was President of the Zoological Section at the Meeting of the British Association at Southampton. Dr. H. A. Baylis, Mr. K. G. Blair, and Mr. J. Ramsbottom took part in cancer research investigations in Italy. Mr. P. R. Lowe continued to serve

on the Advisory Committee appointed by the Home Secretary under the Wild Birds Protection Act; and much assistance was given to the authorities concerned with the administration of the Plumage Act. Many members of the Museum staff co-operated with various bodies, including the Royal Society and the Ministry of Health, in the preparation of exhibits at the British Empire Exhibition.

The Museum specialists continued to advise on a great variety of economic problems, and in some cases to conduct special researches into the organisms concerned. Rats and mice received much attention; and assistance was given in connexion with research on schistosomiasis in East Africa, the Sudan, Mauritius, and elsewhere. Advice was given in regard to an invasion of the public baths of a London borough by the mollusc, *Paludestrina jenkinsi*. Determinations were made of certain snails and slugs injurious to gardens, and methods of control were suggested. Numerous cases of infestation by mites were investigated and the mite *Tyroglyphus longior* was found to be the culprit under such diverse conditions as in bee hives, in Italian sausages, in a wool and fibre mattress, and on the counter of a chemist's shop. Other mites were found to be responsible for damage to tobacco, oil-cake, lime trees, chickens, and ferns; and so numerous were applications for advice as to the furniture mite that a penny pamphlet dealing with the pest was published. In one case a poultry mite was found to have invaded a house and to have attacked its human occupants. Assistance was given in an attempt to rid the swans in certain London parks of the leeches which infest them. A large number of sea-bottom deposits were investigated and reported upon for the Pacific Cable Board.

In the Department of Entomology advice continued to be given upon insects affecting agriculture, horticulture, and stored products; and others injurious to health or productive of discomfort. Among insects attacking wine-corks it was found that in wine-cellars in the City of London the chief is the grub of *Oinophila v-flava*, a moth probably introduced from the Canaries when the wine of those Islands was largely imported. Outside the City the worst offender in this respect is the grub of *Borkhausenia pseudospretella*, which probably gains access to the corks through defective sealing. This species does not restrict its depredations to wine corks. It was responsible during the year for very considerable damage in a hop warehouse; and it frequently attacks textile fabrics. The use of composition boarding in place of plaster for the interior walls of houses was found to have the disadvantage of providing a refuge for bugs and other household pests, from which it is difficult to eradicate them. The occupation of new houses not thoroughly dried out led to many enquiries regarding the insects not infrequently present in such circumstances. The trouble fortunately ceases in most cases as the house dries. Wood-boring beetles continued to form the subject of many applications for advice, and there can be no doubt that widespread damage is being done by the Death Watch Beetle in buildings containing old oak. In spite of forecasts to the contrary, there was no evidence that mosquitoes were unusually numerous in England in 1925.

Much economic work, mainly connected with fungoid growths, was done in the Department of Botany. Timber suspected of rot and diseased plants were referred to the Museum mycologist in large numbers, and he was frequently consulted by research phytopathologists in different parts of the country. Much information was given as to fungi causing disease in man, and questions arising in connection

with several important diseases were dealt with in the Department. One of the large stores sought advice as to effective methods of sterilization against fungi of articles used in their hair-dressing section ; and, to mention only some of the other problems dealt with, investigations were made into occurrences of diseased bacon, damaged chocolate, fermentation of road-tar preparation, spotting of paper, damaged wall-paper, destruction of wood-pulp, corking of wine, fungi on tram cables, and rotting of cloth.

*Acquisitions.*

The number of acquisitions in the several departments during the year, apart from books, was as follows :—

Department.	Purchases.	Donations, Exchanges, etc.	Total.
Zoology ... ...	2,575	48,965	51,540
Entomology ... ...	29,200	150,747	179,947
Geology ... ...	3,694	4,820	8,514
Mineralogy ... ...	347	1,155	1,502
Botany ... ...	2,956	15,574	18,530
	38,772	221,261	260,033

The number of separate presents received during the year was 2,665, among the more interesting of which were :—

From H.R.H. the Duke of York : The skull of a fine female specimen of the Northern White Rhinoceros, the skull of a Black Rhinoceros, and a specimen of a rare species of wild Pig, all shot by His Royal Highness in East Africa ; also the skull of an Ankole Ox, with exceptionally fine horns, given by the Chiefs and Elders of Ankole to Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York on the occasion of their visit to Uganda.

From Lieut.-Commander A. F. Cummins, R.N.R. : Two specimens of a rare freshwater dolphin, *Inia geoffrensis*, from off Santarem, River Amazon.

From Mr. N. C. Watt (Southern Whaling and Sealing Co., Ltd., Liverpool) : Seven foetuses of the Blue Whale from a single female, of much interest in view of the fact that whales rarely bring forth more than one at a birth.

From the Percy Sladen Trustees : Valuable collections of zoological specimens made by Mr. Herbert Stevens in Tonkin, and by Capt. G. C. Shortridge in South-West Africa.

From Capt. Angus Buchanan, M.C. : A collection of 98 mammals, including the types of six new species, collected by him in the Western Sahara.

From Major C. H. B. Grant : 77 skins and skulls of large mammals from Tanganyika Territory, comprising about 18 species and representing many local forms new to the collection.

From Mr. J. J. Joicey : The whole of his valuable collection of about 32,000 butterflies of the family Hesperiidae.

From Dr. E. O. Teale: A very fine series of 5,500 Australasian fossils collected by himself.

From Dr. C. T. Trechmann: 274 fossil invertebrates collected by him in New Zealand.

From Warsaw University Library: A copy of "*Spis ptaków*," a catalogue of birds in the Warsaw Museum, published in 1819 by F. P. Jarocki—an extremely rare pamphlet, of which only two other copies are known.

From Mr. E. Heron-Allen, F.R.S.: About 719 volumes of Natural History books, including a number of rare editions not previously represented in the Museum Library.

From Mr. James Groves: 46 original drawings of British Characeae.

Valuable collections, comprising a large number of rock-specimens, about 170 plants, and specimens of many groups of animals, including about 300 insects, were presented to the Museum by the Scientific Expeditionary Research Association, as a result of the voyage to the Pacific of the S.Y. "St. George," which had collected specimens at Gorgona, the Galapagos Islands, the Marquesas, Tahiti, Easter Island, Madeira, and the West Indies.

The Trustees accepted from Mrs. Dendy and the Delegacy of King's College, London, the late Professor Dendy's important collection of Porifera, together with the books and pamphlets relating to it.

An important and valuable collection, consisting of about 2,542 bird skins and 11,104 birds' eggs from India; 1,208 British birds' eggs; and about 24,000 named specimens of Lepidoptera, mainly from the Indo-Malayan region, was bequeathed to the Museum by the late Mr. James Davidson; and under the Will of the late Miss Lilian Suzette Gibbs the Trustees received 239 botanical specimens collected by her and forming the basis of her work on the mountain floras of Southern Rhodesia, Fiji, New Zealand, Hawaii, British North Borneo, Queensland, and Tasmania.

A mounted specimen of a Vaal Rhebok and a Gelada Baboon and skull were presented to the Museum under the terms of the Rowland Ward Bequest.

Five oil paintings of wild mammals by Wilhelm Kuhnert, and a picture of the Whale-headed Stork, by Whymper, were bequeathed to the Trustees by the late Sir W. E. Garstin.

The principal purchases during the year included; A collection of 154 original zoological and botanical drawings, many of which constitute the types of the species they represent, painted in Ceylon and the Malay Archipelago by Pieter Cornelis de Bevere during the years 1754-1757 for Joan Gideon Loten, then the Dutch Governor of Ceylon; mammals, birds, reptiles and batrachians, fishes, molluses, insects, etc., collected by the Mount Everest Expedition; mammals from Kashmir, Baffin Land, and Arabia; mammals, birds, and reptiles from Madagascar; mammals and fishes from the Amazon; butterflies and moths from the late Colonel Swinhoe's collection; the greater part of Mr. E. A. Butler's collection of British Hemiptera; butterflies from Burma and Siam; a collection of 4,465 insects of various orders from Colombia; Jurassic cephalopods and lamellibranchs from the West of England; Mesozoic Ammonoidea and Nautiloidea, including many specimens from

the collection of the late Dr. Thomas Wright ; Cretaceous sponges from Germany ; a large mass of Haematite from Old Parkside Mine, Frizington, Cumberland ; a piece, weighing 1,181 grams, of the meteoric stone which fell on 19 June, 1924, at Olivenza, Badajoz, Spain ; 244 original coloured drawings of Ngamiland plants ; and plants from Spain and Chile.

An important acquisition was the head and shoulders, flippers, tail, and dorsal fin of a Sei Whale, nearly 50 feet in length, stranded at Portskewett, Monmouthshire.

#### *Collecting Expeditions.*

The Australia and Islands Expedition, conducted by Capt. G. H. Wilkins, completed its work, having been in progress for two and a half years. The results were, in general, very satisfactory, at least 5,000 specimens having been collected, many of them from very inaccessible localities, and a certain number of new species discovered. The cost of the Expedition amounted to £3,010, as compared with an original estimate of £3,000 for a two years' exploration ; and it would have been much greater if Captain Wilkins had not been most successful in making arrangements advantageous to the Museum, and in seizing opportunities of earning revenue for the Expedition.

The East Africa Expedition sustained a severe loss by the death of Mr. W. E. Cutler, its leader, at Lindi, on 30 August. Steps were at once taken to safeguard the specimens collected, many of which were then awaiting shipment. At the earliest opportunity Mr. F. W. H. Migeod was selected as leader of the Expedition and sent out to continue Mr. Cutler's work, and he was followed by Major T. Deacon as assistant. Large consignments of fossil bones have reached the Museum, and more are on their way.

Efforts were made to raise a "Tanganyika Fund" to supplement the Museum funds available for expenditure on this Expedition, and to enable the Trustees to keep it in the field sufficiently long to obtain really satisfactory results. Owing mainly to the generosity of a few donors who gave comparatively large contributions, in particular the Duke of Bedford, K.G., F.R.S., Mr. E. Whitley, Mr. W. M. Christy, the Darwin Fund of the Royal Society, and the Percy Sladen Trustees, the fund has reached a total of over £1,000.

The resources of the Godman Exploration Fund, re-inforced by substantial and generous contributions from Mr. J. Spedan Lewis and Mr. Oldfield Thomas, F.R.S., were utilised for collecting work in Peru, Argentina, Tonkin, and Annam. Valuable collections were received, but the material results of Mr. Willoughby P. Lowe's work in Tonkin and Annam have not yet arrived, although very encouraging reports have been received of the success of the Expedition.

An expedition to Tunisia by Mr. Willoughby P. Lowe, the cost of which was generously borne by Mr. Arthur Vernay, resulted in the presentation to the Museum of 687 birds and other specimens.

Other expeditions in progress during the year from which the Museum will benefit were one by Dr. Cuthbert Christy, to obtain specimens of the fauna of Lake Nyasa and its neighbourhood, and another to the Caucasus by the Hon. Ivor Montagu.

#### *Exchanges, Loans, etc.*

Specimens were exchanged with, and duplicates presented to, certain institutions and private persons.

Collections of minerals from the Broken Hill Mine, Northern Rhodesia, and from Katanga, Belgian Congo, were deposited at the Museum on loan for exhibition purposes by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., K.T., to whom they had been presented during his visit to South Africa.

Important collections of British Diptera and Lepidoptera Heterocera, made by the late Dr. J. H. Wood and deposited under his Will in the Public Museum at Hereford, were transferred to the Natural History Museum on loan for an indefinite period, in order that they might be more generally accessible to entomological students.

A very fine pair of elephant tusks (from the British Empire Exhibition, Wembley) weighing together about 3 cwts., were placed in the Museum on loan by the Government of Kenya Colony.

A cabinet, of great interest as a piece of furniture, having been designed by Robert Adam about 1780 for Sir Joseph Banks who bequeathed it to the Trustees, was lent to the Victoria and Albert Museum for exhibition purposes.

#### *Publications.*

The sum of £2,304 7s. 8d. was handed over to the Director by Col. H. G. Lyons, F.R.S., on behalf of the Mansion House "Captain Scott Antarctic Fund," to be used at the discretion of the Trustees for the publication of Antarctic reports.

The following works were published during the year:—

Index Animalium, sectio secunda, 1801–1850. Parts VI (Ceyl-Concolor), VII (Concolor-Czizeki) and VIII (Daakar-Dorsalis). By C. Davies Sherborn.

Report on Cetacea stranded on the British Coasts, No. 9 (1923 and 1924). By Sir S. F. Harmer, K.B.E., F.R.S.

Catalogue of Type Specimens of Lepidoptera Rhopalocera. Part II, Danaidae. By N. D. Riley and A. G. Gabriel.

Catalogue of Recent Sea-Urchins. By H. L. Clark.

Monograph of Mycetozoa. Third Edition. Revised by Gulielma Lister.

Fossil Insects, No. 1. British Liassic Dragonflies. By R. J. Tillyard, Sc.D., D.Sc.

Fossil Insects, No. 2. Insects from the Coal Measures of Commentry. By H. Bolton, D.Sc.

Guide to Fossil Plants.

Economic Series, No. 4A. British Mosquitoes and their Control. By F. W. Edwards and Lt.-Col. S. P. James, M.D.

Economic Leaflet, No. 2. The Furniture Mite.

New editions were issued of Economic Series, No. 11. Furniture Beetles (Second Edition) and of Economic Leaflet No. 1. The Danger of Disease from Flies and Lice (Third Edition).

A British Museum (Natural History) Almanac for 1926 was published during the autumn; and further progress was made with the production of Natural History picture-postcards, the following being a

summary of the subjects dealt with. The cards are in colour unless otherwise stated, and each set is accompanied by an explanatory leaflet. The number of cards on each subject is given in brackets :—

Mammals (7) ; Birds (22) ; Exotic Butterflies, Moths, Beetles, and other Insects (50) ; British Flowering Plants (20) ; Precious Stones (20) ; Restorations of Extinct Reptiles, monochrome (10) ; Portraits of Famous Naturalists (10 monochrome and one coloured) ; Crabs and Lobsters, monochrome (5) ; Colour changes in Flatfishes, monochrome (5).

Four booklets containing illustrations of British animals in winter surroundings were issued in November, and found a ready sale for use as Christmas cards.

SIDNEY F. HARMER,  
*Director.*

BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY).

1st April, 1926.

## BRITISH MUSEUM, W.C.1.

The Museum is open free to the public on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., but after 4 p.m. in January, February, November, December, and after 5 p.m. in March and October, some only of the galleries remain open, viz. :—

On MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, and FRIDAYS.	<i>Ground Floor.</i> Exhibitions of Manuscripts and Printed Books.
	<i>Upper Floor.</i> Prehistoric Room ; Coins and Medals ; Roman-British, Anglo-Saxon, Oriental, Religious, and Ethnographical Collections ; Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Egyptian Rooms ; Assyrian, Babylonian, Phœnician, Carthaginian, and Coptic Rooms ; Glass, China, and Mediaeval Collections.
On TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS, and SATURDAYS.	<i>Ground Floor.</i> Egyptian, Assyrian, Greek and Roman Sculpture.
	<i>Upper Floor.</i> Prehistoric, Terra-cotta, Gold Ornament, Greek and Roman Life, Bronze, and Vase Rooms ; First, Second, Third, and Fourth Egyptian Rooms ; Prints and Drawings Exhibition Gallery.

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On Sunday Afternoons.—The whole of the Exhibition Galleries are open free :—

From 2 to 4 p.m. in January, February, November, December.

„ 2 to 5 p.m. in March and October.

„ 2 to 6 p.m. April to September, inclusive.

The Museum is closed on Good Friday and Christmas Day.

Public Lecture Tours of the Collections are conducted by Official Guide Lecturers at 12 noon and 3 p.m. daily, except on Sundays. Private parties are also conducted, under conditions to be learned on application verbally in the Entrance Hall, or by letter to the Guide Lecturer, British Museum, W.C.1.

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## BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY), S.W. 7.

The Museum is open free to the public on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in January, February, October, November, and December; and to 6 p.m. from March to September, inclusive.

On Sundays visitors are admitted from 2.30 to 6 p.m. The Museum is closed on Good Friday and Christmas Day.

Public Lecture Tours of the Collections are conducted by the Official Guide Lecturer at 12 noon and 3 p.m. daily, except on Sundays. The Guide Lecturer's services can also be obtained for private parties on application verbally in the Entrance Hall, or by letter to the Director, Natural History Museum, S.W. 7.

FOR OFFICIAL USE.



# BRITISH MUSEUM

Annual Report of the  
General Progress of the Museum and of the  
British Museum (Natural History)  
for the year 1926:

WITH A

Return of the Number of Persons admitted to  
the Museums, and a Statement of the  
Principal Objects added to the  
Collections.

London:

PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

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1927.

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NUMBER OF PERSONS ADMITTED TO VISIT THE BRITISH MUSEUM AND THE  
BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY).

A.—PERSONS ADMITTED to VIEW the GENERAL Collections in the BRITISH MUSEUM in each Year from 1921 to 1926, both Years inclusive.

	1921.		1922.		1923.		1924.		1925.		1926.		
	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	
January	-	75,921	4,194	75,030	3,316	91,639	3,997	78,280	3,670	76,586	1,991	79,922	8,556
February	-	55,979	3,296	60,657	3,690	77,260	5,660	70,719	3,986	70,435	3,941	71,260	6,632
March	-	77,126	4,180	67,155	5,090	75,823	5,906	71,205	6,595	74,629	7,034	75,810	6,686
April	-	70,917	3,946	93,221	7,560	99,225	8,517	90,740	6,191	92,023	6,347	86,585	5,795
May	-	67,663	5,624	64,201	3,091	89,013	5,117	81,712	6,070	75,508	7,712	59,233	7,123
June	-	58,447	4,455	67,524	4,466	73,962	4,423	86,876	7,982	83,394	5,334	74,882	4,515
July	-	71,705	4,494	84,272	9,445	84,171	5,944	119,056	8,052	107,874	7,806	100,072	6,634
August	-	101,775	5,415	115,036	6,025	112,710	5,594	135,578	15,323	120,102	9,002	106,974	8,331
September	-	72,227	5,349	76,449	5,694	85,096	7,968	111,048	9,427	96,303	8,165	80,849	6,124
October	-	71,626	5,088	77,638	6,383	95,399	6,334	95,363	8,219	95,356	6,823	85,364	8,038
November	-	61,001	3,257	65,738	2,665	73,136	3,975	77,048	5,451	73,267	6,039	75,136	4,194
December	-	65,401	2,303	71,433	3,518	70,596	3,528	79,405	3,246	71,047	3,067	66,559	2,150
Total Number of Persons admitted to view the General Collections	849,788		51,511	918,354	60,943	1,028,030	67,323	1,097,030	84,212	1,036,524	73,261	962,646	74,778
			901,299	979,297	1,095,353	1,181,242		1,109,785		1,109,785		1,037,424	

## NUMBER OF VISITS OF STUDENTS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS.

	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
Reading Room	147,145	159,177	164,775	169,902	171,070	173,117	172,466
Newspaper Room and Hendon Repository	10,880	10,034	10,941	13,647	14,522	14,297	15,375
Map Room	317	344	354	457	624	780	1,036
Department of Manuscripts	7,340	8,136	8,407	8,809	8,740	8,895	7,955
Department of Oriental Printed Books and MSS.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Print Room	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Egyptian and Assyrian Department	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greek and Roman Department	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Galleries of Sculpture	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
British and Mediaeval Department	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Department of Ceramics and Ethnography	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coin and Medal Room	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	182,374	196,602	207,017	219,656	220,312
							224,119
							223,227

\* The Print Room was re-opened from 3rd August.

B.—PERSONS ADMITTED TO VIEW THE COLLECTIONS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM  
 (NATURAL HISTORY), CROMWELL ROAD,  
 in each Year from 1921 to 1926, inclusive.

	1921.		1922.		1923.		1924.		1925.		1926.	
	Week-day.	Sun-day.										
January	35,230	4,985	32,521	4,964	35,566	5,215	32,915	6,190	31,778	3,903	34,172	8,394
February	—	—	36,924	6,684	36,530	6,592	28,510	5,715	30,477	5,483	28,032	6,635
March	—	—	43,954	5,909	31,320	7,272	29,590	6,925	28,045	8,063	31,364	7,588
April	—	—	32,602	4,392	51,093	8,495	46,581	8,037	43,274	5,775	48,897	6,764
May	—	—	31,772	6,987	26,049	3,520	35,134	5,387	31,283	6,017	30,476	6,223
June	—	—	31,142	5,226	32,157	4,416	29,690	4,373	43,791	7,080	32,783	4,609
July	—	—	34,666	4,360	31,323	8,945	31,604	4,666	40,205	4,820	40,379	4,840
August	—	—	53,062	6,488	65,782	6,491	50,667	5,525	61,202	12,298	56,172	7,750
September	—	—	30,900	5,629	33,676	7,164	33,163	8,305	36,484	9,498	36,173	6,792
October	—	—	29,292	6,055	31,109	7,555	37,633	6,819	35,716	6,588	31,907	6,294
November	—	—	32,734	3,301	28,556	4,287	30,487	5,624	26,292	7,669	30,728	7,050
December	—	—	35,687	2,995	30,809	4,859	32,533	5,525	29,340	5,131	31,844	3,739
Total Number of Persons admitted to view the Natural History Collections (including students)	417,965	61,511	424,644	74,197	419,569	72,931	437,057	84,844	437,368	69,857	432,495	78,818
		479,476	498,841		492,500		521,901		507,225		511,313	

NUMBER OF VISITS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF STUDY.

	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
Zoology (including Art Students)	—	—	10,459	11,386	10,663	13,633
Entomology	—	—	4,146	5,277	5,034	5,332
Geology	—	—	4,975	3,972	5,038	2,638
Mineralogy	—	—	650	678	596	531
Botany	—	—	3,632	3,448	3,362	3,950
General Library	—	—	—	1,297	836	531
Total	—	—	23,862	26,058	25,744	26,615
						23,564

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM, BLOOMSBURY.

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The total number of visitors to the Museum in 1926 showed a falling off from the figures of the two preceding years (the years of the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley), but still remained above the million. The total was 1,037,424, as compared with 1,109,785 in 1925 and 947,090 in 1913.

The variation in the attendance in the Reading Room and Departmental Students' Rooms was negligible. The attendances in the Reading Room were 172,466, and in the other Students' Rooms 50,761, showing a slight decline, but were above the figures for 1924, though still much below their highest point, reached in 1913 (243,659 and 55,726). The Newspaper and Map Rooms and the Department of British and Mediaeval Antiquities alone showed an increase.

The temporary exhibitions during the year included Franciscan MSS., drawings acquired from the Florence Fund, Napoleonic prints and portraits, Japanese colour-prints and screens, Chinese paintings, antiquities found at Ur in 1925-26, and Maya antiquities from British Honduras.

Lectures to the public were conducted by the Official Guide Lecturers on week-days throughout the year, and were attended by 34,995 persons. The Sunday afternoon lectures, begun in the previous November, were continued until April, the total paying attendance being 3,281, an average of about 150. The lectures were not recommenced in the Autumn, though the Trustees announced their readiness to afford facilities for the purpose to any suitable body.

The total number of objects incorporated in the collections was 405,247, about 9,000 more than in 1925 and about 20,000 more than in 1924.

The figures are as follows :—

Printed Books :

Books and Pamphlets	...	...	...	...	34,968
Serials and Parts of Volumes	...	...	...	...	104,978
Maps and Atlases	...	...	...	...	996
Music	...	...	...	...	8,798
Newspapers (single numbers)	...	...	...	...	261,300
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	7,137
Manuscripts	...	...	...	...	200
Oriental Printed Books and MSS.	...	...	...	...	3,020
Prints and Drawings	...	...	...	...	3,402
Prints and Drawings (Oriental)	...	...	...	...	250
Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities	...	...	...	...	785
Greek and Roman Antiquities	...	...	...	...	270
British and Mediaeval Antiquities	...	...	...	...	1,413
Ceramics and Ethnography	...	...	...	...	360*
Coins and Medals	...	...	...	...	4,370

Total 405,247

\* Including 41 series, each containing numerous objects.

Among the accessions of the year there is no one which overshadows the rest as the statuette of Socrates did in 1925 ; but there are several highly important acquisitions which deserve special mention. They have been described and illustrated, with others, in a new publication, *The British Museum Quarterly*. Most noteworthy, perhaps, are Michael Angelo's cartoon for the Adam of the Sistine chapel, which was purchased with the aid of the National Art-Collections Fund ; the unique impression of Prince Rupert's mezzotint of a woman's head ; the remarkable hoard of Chinese silver vessels of the T'ang period ; the enamelled gold Byzantine reliquary of the twelfth century, and the ivory triptych of English workmanship, made for Bishop Grandisson of Exeter in the fourteenth century.

Considered by Departments, the principal acquisitions may be classified as follows :—

The Department of Printed Books received a further selection of fourteen volumes from the Britwell Library, by the gift of Mr. S. R. Christie-Miller ; four unique Spanish incunabula, from Toledo and Seville, presented by Sir Leicester Harmsworth, Bart., Mr. A. Chester Beatty, Mr. C. S. Gulbenkian, Mr. C. V. Sale, and Mr. W. H. Woodward ; a unique Sarum Book of Hours printed by P. Pigouchet at Paris in 1494 ; and a "graingerised" copy of Clarke and McArthur's *Life of Nelson*, incorporating the Nelson papers collected by A. M. Broadley, bequeathed by the late Marquess Curzon of Kedleston.

The Department of Manuscripts acquired a Bull of the English Pope, Adrian IV., with autograph subscription, attestations, and seal addressed to a Benedictine nunnery at Neasham, in Durham : a volume of English sermons of the fourteenth century, incorporating (without notice) considerable passages of alliterative verse ; and Barron Field's Life of Wordsworth (in MS.), to which are attached several instructive comments by Wordsworth himself. The Department also received two interesting manuscripts on indefinite loan; one being the Antarctic Journal of Dr. E. Wilson, Capt. Scott's companion to the South Pole, deposited by his widow, and the other a copy of C. M. Doughty's poem, *Mansoul*, with extensive manuscript alterations and additions by the author, deposited by Mr. R. C. Calvert.

The acquisitions of the Department of Oriental Printed Books and Manuscripts make less appeal to the general public, but mention is due to a Persian and two Turkish MSS. presented by Mr. A. Chester Beatty, a frequent benefactor of the Museum.

In the Department of Prints and Drawings valuable and interesting accessions have been numerous. To the period of the Renaissance belong a number of German "dotted" prints ; the splendid study by Michael Angelo for the "Adam" of the Sistine Chapel, already mentioned ; a cartoon by Raphael or one of his pupils for the Madonna del Divino Amore ; and two small drawings by Hans Holbein the younger. From the two succeeding centuries come the unique impression of the mezzotint by Prince Rupert ; a hitherto unknown first state of Hollar's "Prospect of London and Westminster, taken from Lambeth," showing the city (including Old St. Paul's) as it was before the Fire ; a book of sketches by Flaxman, presented by Lt.-Gen. Sir A. Hunter-Weston ; and a number of fine examples of French engraving of the eighteenth century. Later work is represented by a group of portraits of Napoleon and his contemporaries from the Crawford collection ; a fine landscape drawing by A. G. Decamps ; a set of drawings by Constantin Guys ; 910 small engravings of the English 19th century school,

presented by Mr. J. R. Saunders ; and a set of etchings by H.M. Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, presented by H.M. the King ; while from the contemporary period the Department has received two very large gifts, viz., 161 prints and drawings presented by the Contemporary Art Society, and 218 modern Russian prints, presented by the artists as a mark of gratitude to Mr. Frank Brangwyn, R.A., and by him transferred to the Museum. Finally eight drawings by the late Mr. T. Derwent Wood, R.A., have been acquired, partly by gift from Mrs. Derwent Wood.

The Oriental Section of the Department of Prints and Drawings received a most valuable selection of Chinese and Japanese paintings from the collection of the late Dr. William Bateson, whose premature death was a great loss to the Museum, of which he was a Trustee. These paintings were presented by Mrs. Bateson in his memory, together with a remarkable series of Corean well-heads and other objects of Corean and Chinese art. Two copies of wall-paintings from the caves of Bâgh, in India, were also acquired, and at the end of the year the Trustees received on loan (to be converted ultimately into a gift) from Mr. George Eumorfopoulos a magnificent series of large Chinese frescoes, the like of which exists in no country outside China. One of these, a panel 13ft. square, contains three colossal and majestic figures, attributed to the 12th century ; the others, each about 9 ft. high, are of later date, probably of the 14th century.

In the Department of Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities a considerable number of smaller accessions have been made, which fill definite gaps in the collections, e.g. a series of over a hundred vases of various periods, from the pre-dynastic to the Roman, and an interesting group of small objects in blue faience. Other acquisitions include Egyptian objects from Byblos, six fragments of a cylinder containing a new edition of the Annals of King Ashur-bani-pal, and a fine early Sumerian stone vase, with a bull carved in high relief. Valuable gifts also have to be acknowledged : from Dr. Alan Gardiner an admirable series of drawings of Egyptian tomb-paintings, by Mrs. N. de Garis Davies, and some papyri ; from Prof. P. E. Newberry a group of miscellaneous Egyptian antiquities, and a share, with Mrs. J. H. Rea and Dr. H. R. Hall, in the gift of four antiquities from the Carmichael collection ; from Mr. Howard Carter, a funerary stèle of the XVIIIth Dynasty ; from Gen. Sir John Maxwell, G.C.B., two limestone offering-troughs of the Vth or VIth Dynasty ; from the Egypt Exploration Society a most valuable series of tomb-groups from Abydos, including necklaces, model tools, pottery, etc., and not a few others.

The Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities has fewer outstanding acquisitions to report than last year. The most noteworthy are 139 primitive bronze objects from Sardinia ; 47 vases and small objects from the Cyclades, presented by Mrs. Theodore Bent, and nine vases from the Bateman collection, including a fine Attic amphora and a large Graeco-Etruscan vase, both of the sixth century.

The Department of British and Mediæval Antiquities, on the other hand, has made two acquisitions of the first rank, in the Byzantine reliquary, already mentioned (purchased with the aid of the National Art-Collections Fund and Mr. O. M. Dalton), and the ivory triptych of Bishop Grandisson, to which the same Fund contributed. A valuable bequest of early dials and other mathematical instruments was made by Col. G. B. Croft Lyons, and a number of weights and measures, with other objects, were presented by Dr. W. L. Hildburgh. Other acquisitions included the gold armlet of the Bronze Age, found on

Selsey beach, a torc of twisted gold found in Sligo in 1850 and now presented by the Misses Phibbs ; and a quantity of flint implements of diverse kinds, presented by various friends of the Museum.

The principal accession to the Department of Ceramics and Ethnography was the very remarkable group of fifteen Chinese silver vessels of the T'ang period (A.D. 618-906), which the Museum was enabled to purchase by the assistance of a number of generous friends. No such hoard has ever previously been discovered, and these vessels testify to the skill and taste of the Chinese silversmiths who produced them. A fine Persian dish, of the Zendjian type, was presented by the National Art-Collections Fund, and a curious glass figure, declared by the highest authority on cetaceans to be a bottle-nosed whale rather than a dolphin, was acquired by purchase. In the Ethnographical section, in addition to the annual gift of carefully selected objects by the Christy Trustees, the Department received a series of oil paintings of Tasmanian and Australian aborigines, made about 1838, from Mr. H. F. McClintock ; a large and finely carved model of a Maori canoe from Lord Stanley of Alderley ; a number of Eskimo specimens collected in 1821-25 by Capt. (afterwards Admiral Sir) W. E. Parry, with a carved wooden feather-box and other objects from Australasia, from Sir Sidney Parry, K.B.E. ; and many other gifts from many benefactors.

The Department of Coins and Medals was also fortunate in its friends, receiving a great collection of Cretan coins by bequest from Mr. R. B. Seager ; the second known example (the other being already in the Museum) of a decadraochm commemorating the campaign of Alexander the Great against the Indian king Porus, in the acquisition of which help was received from Mr. S. L. Courtauld, Mr. A. H. Lloyd, and Mr. W. H. Woodward ; a series of nearly 900 patterns and proofs of the copper coinage of England, presented by Miss Ruth Weightman in memory of her father, Surgeon-General Weightman, who formed the collection ; two silver plaques, with portraits of Thomas and Margaret Cary, presented by Miss Helen Farquhar ; one of two specimens of the Maria Theresa dollar in gold, struck for and presented by Mr. S. Avazey, and a series of 21 silver coins of the Mongol Khans of Crimea, presented by the Marquis de Baye. The principal purchases were eight rare silver coins from the Evans collection, and a rare gold octodraochm of Ptolemy III.

The excavations of the joint expedition of the British Museum and the University Museum, Philadelphia, were continued at Ur under the leadership of Mr. C. L. Woolley. Further portions of the temple-enclosure were cleared, many tablets and some highly interesting reliefs were discovered, and at the end of the year work had been commenced on a cemetery of the 4th millennium B.C., which promised most fruitful results.

In the spring Mr. T. A. Joyce conducted an expedition to Lubaantun, in British Honduras, where preliminary work had been done in the previous year by Dr. Gann, Lady Richmond Brown, and Mr. F. A. Mitchell-Hedges. A plateau was cleared, covered with masonry platforms, pyramids, and other buildings, in three or four successive periods of architecture, showing that the site must have been occupied and used by a large population over a long period of time, the particulars of which have still to be discovered by further investigations.

Exhibitions of the results of the campaigns at Ur and Lubaantun were held in the Museum in the course of the year.

The following are the principal publications issued during the year :—

- The British Museum Quarterly, parts 1—3.
- Catalogue of Irish MSS., 2 vols.
- Schools of Illumination, Part V.
- Supplementary Catalogue of Arabic Printed Books.
- Catalogue of Dutch Drawings, vol. III.
- Catalogue of Greek and Roman Gems, new edition.
- Corpus Vasorum Antiquorum, fasc. 2.
- The Treasure of the Oxus, new edition.
- Cuneiform Texts from Babylonian Tablets, part 39.
- Map of the World, 1506, new edition.
- Guide to the King's Library, new edition.
- Guide to Japanese colour-prints.
- Guide to the Antiquities of the Stone Age, new edition.
- Guide to exhibition of drawings by Claude.
- Reproductions in colour from illuminated MSS., 3 large cards.
- Two large reproductions in colour from Chinese paintings.
- Set of six smaller reproductions in colour from Chinese paintings.
- Photographs of statuette of Socrates and bust of Aphrodite of Cnidos.

Postcard Sets :—

- Clocks.
- Colour-prints by Hiroshige (in colour).
- Turkish Pottery (in colour).
- Wedgwood Jasper ware (in colour).
- Water-colours by Bonington (in colour).
- Greek Red-figured Vases (in colour).
- Drawings by Claude.

Cast of statuette of Socrates.

FREDERIC G. KENYON.  
*Director and Principal Librarian,*

BRITISH MUSEUM,  
14th April, 1927.

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM.

The figures for the attendances of visitors at the Natural History Museum for 1926 show a decrease on week-days of 4,873, the number being 432,495 as against 437,368 in 1925. This, however, was more than balanced by an increase in Sunday attendances from 69,857 in 1925 to 78,818 in 1926, making a grand total of 511,313 as compared with 507,225. The number of visitors during the general strike in May was somewhat more than half the normal attendance. It is very satisfactory that the total attendances should have increased in comparison with 1925, a year in which large numbers of people were attracted to London by the British Empire Exhibition. The number of persons present at the demonstrations of the Official Guide during the year was 14,468, a decrease of 1,214 on that for the previous year.

Their Majesties the King and Queen visited the Museum on 13 March; Her Majesty the Queen again on 19 March; His Majesty the King of Spain on 2 July; and His Highness the Emir Feisal, K.C.M.G., Viceroy of Mecca, on 5 October.

About 60 of the participants in the celebration of the Jubilee of the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland were entertained at the Museum on 22 September.

*The Museum Building.*

The Trustees continued throughout the year to devote much attention to the serious and increasing difficulties arising from the inadequacy of the Museum Building. Nearly all the exhibition galleries are overcrowded, but from the standpoint of practical necessity a much more serious matter is the congestion of the study collections and the lack of room for those engaged in research. Although recourse has been and is still being had to palliative rearrangements, their effect is soon exhausted and the scope for them is very limited. The Museum is unfortunate in that its needs have become acute at a time of such severe financial stringency, but the Trustees remain hopeful of finding means for the effective maintenance of its work.

*The Exhibition Galleries.*

Progress was made during the year with the preparation of a habitat-group of African elephants in one of the bays of the Central Hall. In this connection the Government of the Union of South Africa most generously provided trees and other vegetation from the Knysna Forest, Cape Colony, the home of the elephants in the group. The Trustees gratefully acknowledge the care and trouble taken by the South African Department of Forests in obtaining suitable examples and conveying them undamaged to the coast. An exhibit illustrating the disastrous effect on marine bird life of oil-waste discharged from ships was installed in the Central Hall. In the Fossil Reptile Gallery a specimen of a large armoured dinosaur from Alberta was set up and a plaster cast of a nest of dinosaur eggs was placed on exhibition:

Revision, rearrangement, and re-labelling proceeded continually throughout the exhibition galleries, and specimens were renewed as necessary.

### *The Study Collections.*

In all departments the work of incorporating acquisitions, determining specimens, investigating and describing new species, and when possible revising the classification of groups, continued to occupy most of the time of the scientific staff and of numerous voluntary and temporary workers.

It is impossible to give even a brief summary of the progress made during the year in this section of the Museum's activities, but a few examples may be given. The specimens of the cat family were rearranged and brought together, and several groups of birds were studied and re-classified in accordance with the latest views as to their affinities. The collection of Sea-snakes and part of that of Flat-fishes were revised and rearranged. Special attention was given to British land and freshwater Mollusca, and a manuscript list of the collection of Spiders was completed, which, when bound, made ten large volumes. Many families of insects were revised, but in this Department especially it is impossible, even with the aid of many voluntary workers, to keep the collections up to date. Fossil Mammals received much attention, especially in relation to the Galilee and Rhodesian Skulls and the Upnor Elephant, and the arrival of large quantities of material from East Africa threw a heavy burden on those responsible for the fossil Reptiles. Work on a thorough reorganisation of the rock-collection in the Department of Mineralogy was continued. In the Department of Botany the collections of several families of both flowering plants and cryptogams were revised.

### *Advisory and Economic Activities.*

Sir Sidney Harmer continued to act as Vice-Chairman of the Colonial Office Committee responsible for the direction of the "Discovery" Expedition for the investigation of whaling problems in the Dependencies of the Falkland Islands. He also devoted much time and labour to the sifting and analysis of statistics and reports on the subject of whaling. It has been arranged for the collections sent home from the "Discovery" to be received at the Museum and for all possible assistance to be given to the staff employed in working them out.

Mr. C. Tate Regan, F.R.S., represented the Museum at the Annual Conference of the Museums Association held at Bournemouth during July, and Dr. A. B. Rendle, F.R.S., and Mr. J. Ramsbottom, O.B.E., at the International Botanical Congress held at Ithaca, New York, in August. Dr. F. A. Bather, F.R.S., attended the Fourteenth International Geological Congress at Madrid in May; Major E. E. Austen, D.S.O., Dr. H. A. Baylis, and Mr. M. A. C. Hinton the Annual Conference of the Royal Sanitary Institute in London in July; and Mr. B. H. Soulsby the Fourth International Congress of Librarians at Prague in the same month.

The collection of information, mainly supplied by the Colonial Office and the Foreign Office, with reference to the protection of animals throughout the British Empire and in some foreign countries was continued. In this connection it is of interest to note that as a result of

protective measures the flamingo population of Andros Island in the Bahamas is reported to have at least doubled within three years, having previously been in danger of extermination.

Several collections of small mammals believed to be implicated in the spread of such diseases as Plague, Yellow Fever, and Kala-Azar were received from China, South America, and West Africa, and were examined and reported upon. Assistance by the identification of feathers was given throughout the year to the authorities concerned with the administration of the Plumage Act, and Mr. P. R. Lowe, O.B.E., continued to serve on the Advisory Committee appointed by the Home Secretary under the Wild Birds Protection Acts. Mr. Lowe also represented the Museum and the British Government at the Sixth International Ornithological Congress, held at Copenhagen in May, where he served on a Committee appointed to consider the increasingly serious problem presented by the menace to sea-birds of the discharge of oil from ships, and by the threatened extermination of wild waterfowl in parts of Europe as the result of over-exploitation for commercial purposes. Numerous molluscs, mites, ticks, and parasitic worms formed the subjects of investigations undertaken by members of the staff of the Department of Zoology in response to appeals for advice from those concerned with the depredations of these animals.

In the Department of Entomology enquiries from numerous correspondents, including Sanitary Officers, Medical Officers of Health, and Public Health Departments, relating to species of economic importance were dealt with; and in several instances, by special request of the local Medical Officer of Health or other authority, visits were paid to buildings infested by injurious insects, for the purposes of investigation and giving advice. Information most in demand concerned the control of household pests such as house-flies, ants, fleas, cockroaches, and furniture-beetles. Other enquiries had reference to the death-watch beetle in the roof-timbers of churches, weevils in maize and cattle-cake, and clothes-moth larvæ in furs, etc. Information and advice concerning pests of stored products, clothing, etc., and with respect to proposed co-operation with the Mexican Government in locust control in Central America, were supplied to various Government Departments. In addition, visits were paid to certain London parks and gardens, for the purpose of investigation and reporting upon the question of mosquito-breeding therein.

The Botanical Department was consulted during the year with regard to numerous problems, including methods of dealing with algæ and fungi in water supplies, imperfections in tobacco, rot in timber, and destruction by fungi of parchment; much time and attention were devoted to diseases caused by fungi in man, domestic animals, fish, game, and plants, and the causative fungi were identified in instances of imperfections of cider, cement, dog biscuits, paint, wall paper, pictures, and fibres. The Department was also consulted in connection with the growth of lucerne and the nomenclature of varieties of the tea-plant.

#### *Acquisitions.*

The number of acquisitions in the several Departments during the year, apart from books, and excluding the Oberthür collection of Lepidoptera, the Christy collection of Fishes from Nyasa, not yet incorporated, and the collections made by the British Museum East Africa

Expedition which have not yet been completely unpacked, was as follows :—

Department.	Purchases.	Donations, Exchanges, etc.	Total.
Zoology ... ...	4,066	31,387	35,453*
Entomology ...	66,353	212,636	278,989
Geology ... ...	19,254	13,192	32,446
Mineralogy ...	224	6,157	6,381
Botany ... ...	28,865	19,696	48,561
	118,762	283,068	401,830

\* Excluding the Heron-Allen collection of 4,000,000 Foraminifera.

The number of separate presents received during the year was 2,572, the most important being the very large and valuable collection of Foraminifera presented by Mr. E. Heron-Allen, F.R.S., which comprised approximately four million specimens mounted on 17,000 microscope slides. Among the more interesting of the other donations were :—

From his Majesty the King : A specimen of a Shou, a rare Tibetan species of Stag.

From Viscount Dillon, C.H., D.C.L. : A coloured portrait of Linnaeus in Lapland dress (1737).

From Mr. A. S. Le Souef : 92 photographs of Australian Marsupials and Rodents.

From the daughters of the late Mr. Mansfield Parkyns : The type specimen of the Whale-headed Stork (*Balaeniceps rex*).

From Mr. A. D. Michael : A valuable collection of microscope slides and spirit specimens of Acari.

From Mrs. T. R. R. Stebbing : The collection of many thousands of specimens of Crustacea formed by her late husband the Rev. T. R. R. Stebbing, F.R.S.

From the Countess Pes di Villamarina : The collection of insects, including about 2,000 Coleoptera and 450 Lepidoptera, formed by her late husband Mr. James Sligo Jameson, naturalist to Sir H. M. Stanley's Emin Pasha Relief Expedition.

From Mr. E. Brunetti : His large collection of Diptera and other insects, together with books, manuscript notes, etc.

From Dr. Louis W. Sambon : His important collection of Linguatulida.

From Mrs. Howland Roberts : The valuable collection of insects, birds' eggs, and shells, formed by her husband, the late Major Howland Roberts.

From Mrs. Arbuthnot : A large number of coloured drawings of Jamaican Lepidoptera made by her mother, the late Lady Blake.

From the Governors of St. Bartholomew's Hospital : 122 specimens of British Lepidoptera, including 21 specimens of the British Large Copper Butterfly, a species now extinct.

From Dr. C. T. Trechmann: About 4,200 mineral specimens brought together by his father, the late Dr. Charles Otto Trechmann, and valued at over £1,000; also a fine cabinet, mineralogical and entomological books and pamphlets, and a microscope.

From the Potgietersrust Platinum Mining Company: An extraordinarily large crystal of Sperrylite.

From Mr. E. J. Dunn: The fine and valuable collection of Tekrites formed by him and for some time exhibited on loan in the Mineral Gallery.

Important bequests to the Museum included the late Mr. William Archbald's collection of about 15,000 specimens of Lepidoptera; the late Mr. George Lewis's collection of 12,582 Coleoptera; and the late Lieut.-Colonel F. R. Winn Sampson's collection of Coleoptera, comprising about 11,000 specimens and 1,400 microscope preparations, together with selections from his books and papers, and two microscopes. Sixteen mounted specimens of mammals were presented to the Museum during the year under the terms of the Rowland Ward Bequest.

The Trustees concluded, towards the end of the year, arrangements for the purchase of the whole of the very fine collection of Lepidoptera formed by the late M. Charles Oberthür of Rennes, with the exception of some thousands of specimens already sold. The specimens purchased number about 800,000, among which are many thousands of types. Only a small portion of the collection arrived at the Museum before the end of the year.

Other important purchases included a life-sized bronze portrait bust by Gaston Déprez of the late Jean Henri Fabre; collections of mammals from the Amazon and from Bolivia; 600 birds from Cameroon; fishes, crustaceans, etc., from French Guiana and from the Amazon; the remainder, comprising about 21,000 specimens, of the late Colonel Swinhoe's collection of Lepidoptera; a collection of 8,430 specimens of Coleoptera; the collections of Fossil Invertebrates formed by the late A. W. Rowe and the late G. W. Lamplugh, F.R.S.; 700 ammonites from Bavaria and Würtemburg and 426 graptolites from the Middle Silurian of Thuringia; pieces of a number of meteorites; a series of specimens of the wheats of the world representing 1,300 different forms; a collection made by Prof. A. Baldacci of 5,414 plants from Albania and other parts of the Balkans; Mr. David McArdle's collection of 3,108 mosses and 4,337 hepaticas from Ireland; the Braithwaite herbarium of mosses; and collections of plants from Borneo and Hungary.

#### *Collecting Expeditions.*

The work of the East Africa Expedition was continued throughout the year at Tendaguru under Mr. F. W. H. Migeod and Major T. Deacon. Large consignments of fossils reached the Museum, but time had not permitted of their being thoroughly unpacked and examined before the end of the year.

Major Cuthbert Christy obtained in the course of his expedition to Lake Nyasa some 8,000 specimens of fishes, the majority of them belonging to the family Cichlidae. They included a number of new genera and species as well as good series of specimens of many species previously known from unique types or from two or three specimens

only. Accompanied by Mr. S. R. B. Pask, Major Christy was engaged during the latter part of the year in a further expedition to Lake Tanganyika, the results of which have not yet come to hand.

A successful expedition to the Spanish Sierra Nevada for the collection of botanical specimens was made by Mr. A. J. Wilmott of the Department of Botany.

An expedition into South-west Africa by Capt. G. C. Shortridge was made possible by financial assistance from the Percy Sladen Trustees; and collecting work in Peru, Patagonia, and Bolivia was continued with the aid of generous contributions from Mr. J. Spedan Lewis and Mr. Oldfield Thomas, F.R.S., together with grants from the Godman Exploration Fund.

Expeditions were commenced during the year for the benefit of the Museum to the Patagonian Andes by Mr. F. W. Edwards, and in Northern Australia by Mr. A. S. Le Souef.

#### *Exchanges, Loans, etc.*

Specimens were exchanged with, and duplicate specimens presented to a number of institutions and individuals. In the Department of Geology especially a considerable quantity of duplicate material of little value to the Museum was presented to suitable applicants, with a view to releasing storage space for new acquisitions. A rock-cutting machine, no longer required in the Museum, was presented to the Geological Department of the University of Reading.

His Majesty the King placed at the Museum on loan for exhibition purposes a White Tiger, presented to His Majesty by His Highness the Maharaja of Rewa, who shot the animal in the Rewa jungle in 1925. This interesting specimen has been placed outside the Upper Mammal Gallery, opposite the tiger shot by His Majesty in Nepal in 1911.

In the course of a visit to the Botanical Museum, Berlin, Mr. A. W. Exell, Assistant in the Department of Botany, made 280 drawings of type-specimens of African plants and was allowed to select portions of fifty type-specimens to be received by the Department in exchange for duplicates.

#### *Publications.*

The Trustees have agreed to publish a work on the insects of Samoa based on the collections recently made by Dr. P. A. Buxton in that group of islands. Dr. Buxton undertakes to present to the Museum a first set of every species, including all types.

The following works were published during the year:—

Index Animalium, Sectio Secunda, 1801-1850. By C. Davies Sherborn.

Part IX. *Dorsalis-Eurystomus.*

Part X. *Eurystomus-funereus.*

Part XI. *Funereus-gyzeensis.*

Monograph of the Voles and Lemmings (*Microtinæ*), Living and Extinct. Vol. I. By M. A. C. Hinton.

Monograph of Sea-Snakes. By Malcolm Smith.

Descriptions of New Genera and Species of Lepidoptera *Phalaenæ* of the Subfamily *Noctuinae*. By Sir G. F. Hampson, Bart.

A Synopsis of the Families and Genera of Nematoda. By H. A. Baylis, M.A., D.Sc., and R. Daubney, M.Sc.

A Synonymy of the British Non-Marine Mollusca (Recent and Post-Tertiary). By A. S. Kennard and B. B. Woodward.

A Monograph of Lichens found in Britain. Part II. Second Edition. By Annie Lorrain Smith.

Flora of Jamaica. Vol. V. By W. Fawcett, B.Sc., and A. B. Rendle, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S.

Catalogue of Machaeridia. By T. H. Withers.

Catalogue of Cainozoic Plants. Vol. I. The Bembridge Flora. By Eleanor M. Reid, B.Sc., and Marjorie E. J. Chandler (with a section on the Charophyta by James Groves).

Guide to the Collection of Meteorites. By G. T. Prior, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S.

New editions were issued of the Summary Guide to the Exhibition Galleries (Third Edition); of the Guide to the Exhibited Series of Insects (Fourth Edition); of Instructions for Collectors, No. 7, Bloodsucking Flies (Fifth Edition); and of Economic Series No. 1A. The House Fly; its Life History, importance as a Disease Carrier, and Practical Measures for its suppression (Second Edition).

Arrangements were made for the issue of the first number of a Museum quarterly journal, the "Natural History Magazine" in January, 1927.

Further progress was made in the production of picture-postcards, the following being a summary of the subjects dealt with. The cards are in colour unless otherwise stated, and each set is accompanied by an explanatory leaflet. The number of cards issued on each subject is given in brackets:—

British Sea Birds (10); Exotic Butterflies, Moths, Beetles, and other Insects (20); British Flowering Plants (30, including 10 Orchids); Ornamental Stones (10); Crystals (10); Portraits of Famous Naturalists, monochrome (8).

Four booklets, illustrating British Animals in summer surroundings and including descriptive letterpress, were issued during the summer.

C. TATE REGAN,  
*Director.*

BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY).  
1st April, 1927.

## BRITISH MUSEUM, W.C.1.

The Museum is open free to the public on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., but after 4 p.m. in January, February, November, December, and after 5 p.m. in March and October, some only of the galleries remain open, viz. :—

On MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, and FRIDAYS.	<i>Ground Floor.</i>
	Exhibitions of Manuscripts and Printed Books.
On TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS, and SATURDAYS.	<i>Upper Floor.</i>
	Prehistoric Room ; Coins and Medals ; Roman-British, Anglo-Saxon, Oriental, Religious, and Ethnographical Collections ; Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Egyptian Rooms ; Assyrian, Babylonian, Phœnician, Carthaginian, and Coptic Rooms ; Glass, China, and Mediaeval Collections.
	<i>Ground Floor.</i>
	Egyptian, Assyrian, Greek and Roman Sculpture.
	<i>Upper Floor.</i>
	Prehistoric, Terra-cotta, Gold Ornament, Greek and Roman Life, Bronze, and Vase Rooms ; First, Second, Third, and Fourth Egyptian Rooms ; Prints and Drawings Exhibition Gallery.

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On Sunday Afternoons.—The whole of the Exhibition Galleries are open free :—

From 2 to 4 p.m. in January, February, November, December.

„ 2 to 5 p.m. in March and October.

„ 2 to 6 p.m. April to September, inclusive.

The Museum is closed on Good Friday and Christmas Day.

Public Lecture Tours of the Collections are conducted by Official Guide Lecturers at 12 noon and 3 p.m. daily, except on Sundays. Private parties are also conducted, under conditions to be learned on application verbally in the Entrance Hall, or by letter to the Guide Lecturer, British Museum, W.C.1.

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## BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY), S.W. 7.

The Museum is open free to the public on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in January, February, October, November, and December; and to 6 p.m. from March to September, inclusive.

On Sundays visitors are admitted from 2.30 to 6 p.m. The Museum is closed on Good Friday and Christmas Day.

Public Lecture Tours of the Collections are conducted by the Official Guide Lecturer at 12 noon and 3 p.m. daily, except on Sundays. The Guide Lecturer's services can also be obtained for private parties on application verbally in the Entrance Hall, or by letter to the Director, Natural History Museum, S.W. 7.

FOR OFFICIAL USE.



# BRITISH MUSEUM

Annual Report of the  
General Progress of the Museum and of the  
British Museum (Natural History)  
for the year 1927:

WITH A

Return of the Number of Persons admitted to  
the Museums, and a Statement of the  
Principal Objects added to the  
Collections.

London:

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NUMBER OF PERSONS ADMITTED TO VISIT THE BRITISH MUSEUM AND THE  
BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY).

A.—PERSONS ADMITTED to View the GENERAL Collections in the BRITISH MUSEUM in each Year from 1922 to 1927, both Years inclusive.

	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.							
	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.							
January	-	75,030	3,316	91,639	3,997	78,280	3,670	76,586	1,991	79,922	8,556	70,856	4,985
February	-	60,657	3,690	77,260	5,660	70,719	3,986	70,435	3,941	71,260	6,632	67,205	4,667
March	-	67,155	5,090	75,823	5,906	71,205	6,595	74,629	7,034	75,810	6,686	81,269	6,075
April	-	93,221	7,560	99,225	8,517	90,740	6,191	92,023	6,347	86,585	5,795	90,276	6,652
May	-	64,201	3,091	89,013	5,117	81,712	6,070	75,508	7,712	59,233	7,123	77,804	6,562
June	-	67,524	4,466	73,962	4,423	86,876	7,982	83,394	5,334	74,882	4,515	97,973	7,210
July	-	84,272	9,445	84,171	5,944	119,056	8,052	107,874	7,806	100,072	6,634	111,970	8,774
August	-	115,036	6,025	112,710	5,594	135,578	15,323	120,102	9,002	106,974	8,331	139,587	7,754
September	-	76,449	5,694	85,096	7,968	111,048	9,427	96,303	8,165	80,849	6,124	101,683	7,714
October	-	77,638	6,383	95,399	6,334	95,363	8,219	95,356	6,823	85,364	8,038	92,311	8,247
November	-	65,738	2,665	73,136	3,975	77,048	5,451	73,267	6,039	75,136	4,194	80,287	4,283
December	-	71,433	3,518	70,596	3,528	79,405	3,246	71,047	3,067	66,559	2,150	69,215	1,207
Total Number of Persons admitted to view the Gene- ral Collections	918,354	60,943	1,028,030	67,323	1,097,030	84,212	1,036,524	73,261	962,646	74,778	1,080,436	74,130	1,154,566
											1,109,785	1,037,424	
	979,297	1,095,353											

## IN NUMBER OF VISITS OF STUDENTS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS.

B.—PERSONS ADMITTED TO VIEW THE COLLECTIONS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM  
(NATURAL HISTORY), CROMWELL ROAD,  
in each Year from 1922 to 1927, inclusive.

## BRITISH MUSEUM.

	1922.			1923.			1924.			1925.			1926.			1927.		
	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.															
January	-	-	-	-	32,521	4,964	35,566	5,215	32,915	6,190	31,778	3,903	34,172	8,394	31,818	6,451		
February	-	-	-	-	30,249	6,229	26,921	6,530	28,510	5,715	30,477	5,483	28,032	6,635	26,228	6,344		
March	-	-	-	-	31,320	7,272	29,590	6,925	28,045	8,063	31,364	7,805	30,430	7,588	26,273	6,215		
April	-	-	-	-	51,093	8,495	46,581	8,037	43,274	5,775	48,897	5,969	46,273	6,764	49,808	6,774		
May	-	-	-	-	26,049	3,520	35,134	5,387	31,283	6,017	30,476	6,223	29,648	6,204	32,034	6,650		
June	-	-	-	-	32,157	4,416	29,690	4,373	43,791	7,080	38,173	4,009	32,783	4,609	44,541	5,356		
July	-	-	-	-	31,323	8,945	31,604	4,666	40,205	4,820	40,379	4,840	37,015	4,807	44,344	7,054		
August	-	-	-	-	65,782	6,491	50,667	5,525	61,202	12,298	56,172	7,570	56,921	5,917	85,962	6,767		
September	-	-	-	-	33,676	7,164	33,163	8,305	36,484	9,498	36,173	6,792	37,432	6,918	42,483	8,763		
October	-	-	-	-	31,109	7,555	37,633	6,819	35,716	6,588	31,907	6,294	34,958	9,063	36,389	8,850		
November	-	-	-	-	28,556	4,287	30,487	5,624	26,292	7,669	29,728	7,050	31,779	7,214	33,527	6,250		
December	-	-	-	-	30,809	4,859	32,533	5,525	29,340	5,131	31,844	3,739	33,903	4,705	27,255	3,730		
Total Number of Persons admitted to view the Natural History Collections (including students)	424,644	74,197	419,569	72,931	437,057	84,844	437,368	69,857	432,495	78,818	490,114	79,204						
	498,841	492,500	521,901	507,225	511,313	569,318												
	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.												
	-	-	-	-	-	-												
Zoology (including Art Students)	-	10,459	11,386	11,083	10,663	13,633									11,170	10,867		
Entomology	-	4,146	5,277	4,755	5,034	5,332									4,892	4,607		
Geology	-	4,975	3,972	4,669	5,038	2,638									2,491	2,393		
Mineralogy	-	650	678	915	596	531									531	414		
Botany	-	3,632	3,448	3,486	3,362	3,950									3,435	4,235		
General Library	-	—	1,297	836	699	531									775	934		
Total	-	23,862	26,058	25,744	26,615	25,392									23,564	23,450		

NUMBER OF VISITS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF SICBY.

	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.
Zoology (including Art Students)	10,459	11,386	11,083	10,663	13,633	11,170	10,867
Entomology	4,146	5,277	4,755	5,034	5,332	4,892	4,607
Geology	4,975	3,972	4,669	5,038	2,638	2,491	2,393
Mineralogy	650	678	915	596	531	531	414
Botany	3,632	3,448	3,486	3,362	3,950	3,055	4,235
General Library	—	1,297	836	699	531	775	934
Total	23,862	26,058	25,744	25,392	26,615	23,564	23,450

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM, BLOOMSBURY.

The attendance of visitors at the British Museum in 1927 showed very marked increases from the beginning of the month of March, and the ultimate total, 1,154,566, is higher than in any previous year within recent record, with the exception of the first year of the Wembley Exhibition (1924). The total for weekdays in the month of August (always the most popular month) was higher than that in any single month previously recorded.

The attendances in the Reading Room and Departmental Students' Rooms also showed increases in almost every instance. The Reading Room figure rose from 172,466 to 182,214, an average of 599 readers daily. The Room was in consequence often inconveniently crowded. The number of books supplied to readers throughout the year (exclusive of those on the open shelves in the Room itself) was 1,475,264. The Newspaper Room had 16,781 readers (an average of 57 daily), and issued 61,292 volumes in addition to 1,511 brought from the Repository at Hendon; while 615 readers were admitted to the Repository to consult files that could not conveniently be sent to the Museum. The total for all Students' Rooms (including the Newspaper Room but excluding the Reading Room) was 56,321, the highest on record. It may be interesting to add that 30,660 MSS. and 7,549 charters were consulted in the Manuscript Students' Room, and 23,186 printed books and 9,676 MSS. in the Department of Oriental Printed Books and MSS.

The lectures by the Official Guide Lecturers were attended by 39,966 persons.

The demands for photographs of objects in the Museum continue to increase. Volumes to the number of 3,991 printed books and MSS. were issued for photography (the number of photographs taken being of course very much larger); also 2,057 prints and drawings, and 1,476 objects in the Departments of Antiquities. In the course of the year authority was obtained to set up an official staff of photographers, while still continuing to give free access to non-official photographers. Applications for photostat reproductions are increasing rapidly, especially from America.

The temporary exhibitions given in the galleries during the year included Chinese frescoes and Japanese prints, Sumerian antiquities from the excavations at Ur, Indian paintings, Flemish prints, drawings and illuminated manuscripts, Greek printing types, manuscripts and printed books illustrating the history of agriculture, and drawings, engravings and colour prints by Blake. Recent acquisitions were also placed temporarily on view in most Departments.

The Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the condition and needs of the national museums and picture galleries commenced its inquiries in the course of the summer. Its appointment has for the present suspended the provision of extended accommodation for the Library, which is urgently needed.

The total number of objects incorporated in the collections was 462,242, an increase of almost 31,000 on the previous year, the total for which was wrongly printed as 405,247 in the previous Report, instead of 431,247.

The figures for the several Departments are as follows :

Printed Books :

Books and Pamphlets	...	...	...	33,703
Serials and Parts of Volumes	...	...	...	109,481
Maps and Atlases	...	...	...	2,234
Music	...	...	...	10,974
Newspapers (single numbers)	...	...	...	286,861
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	5,825
Manuscripts	...	...	...	676
Oriental Printed Books and MSS.	...	...	...	1,787
Prints and Drawings	...	...	...	3,396
Prints and Drawings (Oriental)	...	...	...	353
Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities	...	...	...	931
Greek and Roman Antiquities	...	...	...	212
British and Mediaeval Antiquities	...	...	...	1,327
Ceramics and Ethnography	...	...	...	1,350
Coins and Medals	...	...	...	3,132
 TOTAL	...	...	462,242	

The two outstanding acquisitions of the year were the gold medal commemorating the marriage of Queen Mary to Philip of Spain, and the first edition of Christopher Smart's *Song to David*. These are mentioned below, with the other principal acquisitions of the several Departments.

At the sale of the last portion of the great Britwell Library, Mr. Christie-Miller, the owner, bought in at the amazing price of £590 his copy (one of only five known) of Smart's *Song to David* (with the author's signature), and presented it to the Museum. This formed a fitting climax to the series of Mr. Christie-Miller's benefactions to the Museum in connection with the sales of his library. From the Britwell Library came also, by purchase, an unique Church Brief inviting, under authorisation from Henry VIII, subscriptions for the building and maintenance of a Chapel of St. James on Bosworth Field, to receive the remains of those slain in the battle there. Other accessions to the Department of Printed Books included the only known copies of two books printed by Pynson in 1496 and 1497, and the only books printed at Nozzano and at the press of Pasquinus de Fontenesio at Bologna. Among notable gifts were a collection of 32 theological tracts of the Tudor period, presented by Sir Leicester Harmsworth; *Monumenta Cartographica Africæ et Aegypti*, presented by H.H. Prince Youssouf Kamal of Egypt; and a massive album of prints, autographs, drawings, etc., entitled *La France à l'Empire Britannique*, presented by the French Government.

The Department of Manuscripts acquired a further selection of Greek papyri, ranging from the third century B.C. to the eighth century after Christ; the private chartulary of the Rideware family, of the fourteenth century; an autobiographical memoir of Thomas Bewick, in his own hand; the Martin Papers of the well-known naval family of that name, in 130 volumes, ranging from 1748 to 1863, presented by General Sir Francis Davies, K.C.B.; and the diplomatic papers of the first Lord Heytesbury, in 40 volumes, 1814-1822.

In the Department of Oriental Printed Books and MSS. special mention has to be made of the unique manuscript of the poems (*Divān*) of

Zu'l-Fakār Shirvani, written in 1339 ; sixteen large portions of the Kitāb al- mudauwanah, written in the tenth century ; and a group of twelve MSS., mostly Arabic.

The Department of Prints and Drawings has been enriched both by gifts of considerable collections and by some remarkable single pieces. Among the former may be mentioned the final instalment of the practically complete collection of the etchings of F. Bracquemond, presented by the Keeper, Mr. Campbell Dodgson ; representative selections of Czecho-Slovak and Polish art presented by the Government of Czecho-Slovakia and the Warsaw Society of Graphic Artists respectively ; the George Potter bequest of topographical prints relating chiefly to northern London ; over 450 prints, chiefly portraits, from the Morrison collection, presented by Mrs. Alfred Morrison and an anonymous benefactor ; 70 proofs of etchings by Theodore Roussel, presented by his stepdaughter and niece ; and a considerable number of modern prints, including many by R. S. Austin, presented by the Contemporary Art Society. Among single pieces special mention is due to two drawings by Holman Hunt, presented by his widow ; a study by Ingres ; a portrait by Perroneau ; a pen-and-ink drawing by Dürer, presented by Mr. Campbell Dodgson ; and a drawing by T. Stimmer, presented by the National Art-Collections Fund. Several important German woodcuts were also acquired.

The Oriental branch of the Department received a further selection of Japanese colour prints of high quality from Mr. R. N. Shaw, and five Japanese screens presented by Mr. Arthur Morrison. In addition, the magnificent Chinese frescoes, mentioned in last year's report as having been deposited on loan by Mr. G. Eumorfopoulos, were converted into a gift, the value of which can hardly be over-estimated.

In the Department of Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities the most notable accessions have been two limestone vases carved in high relief and a bowl with hunting scenes in the marshes, from Mesopotamia, about 3000 B.C. : several pieces of painted plaster and other objects from Tell el-Amarna, presented by the Egypt Exploration Society ; a selection of pre-dynastic objects from the excavations of Miss G. Caton-Thompson, presented by the British School of Archaeology in Egypt ; six cinerary urns from Carthage, presented by the administration of archaeology in Tunis ; while a magnificent series of copies of wall-paintings in Theban tombs, by Mrs. de Garis Davies, has been deposited on indefinite loan by Dr. Alan Gardiner. In addition, the Department has received its share of the results of the highly successful excavations at Ur, conducted by Mr. C. L. Woolley for the Joint Expedition of the British Museum and the Museum of the University of Pennsylvania.

The Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities has acquired an exceptionally fine and large Greek vase of "Dipylon" style ; a bronze water-vessel, and a bronze helmet of about 400 B.C. ; a marble portrait bust, perhaps of the emperor Gordian I ; and a marble relief representing the arrival of Aeneas at the site of Rome.

The Department of British and Mediaeval Antiquities was fortunate, as usual, in its friends. Among many gifts special mention is due to the collection of seals and signet rings made by the late Lt.-Col. G. B. Croft Lyons, and presented by Mr. Mill Stephenson, to whom he had bequeathed them ; the Witchampton set of early chessmen, carved out of whale's bone, presented by Mrs. MacGeagh ; the glass prism used

by Sir Isaac Newton, presented by the Rev. H. T. Inman ; and the fine Roman mosaic pavement from Horkstow, deposited on indefinite loan by Mr. John Hele. The most important purchases have been a fine gold ornament of Scythic origin, of the second or third century ; and a large selection of miscellaneous mediaeval antiquities from the collection of the late Mr. S. G. Fenton.

The Department of Ceramics and Ethnography likewise depends largely on the generosity of benefactors. Its most notable accessions were an early Persian bowl of Zenjan type ; a fine Turkish jug, bequeathed by the Right Hon. F. Leverton Harris. ; a Chelsea porcelain group of the " Roman Charity," presented by Viscount Bearsted ; a series of fine wooden carvings and other ethnographical objects from New Zealand, presented by Mrs. M. Reid ; and a large canoe from the Solomon Islands, presented by the Trustees of the Lady Lever Art Gallery.

Finally the Department of Coins and Medals acquired, through the liberality of the Goldsmiths' Company, the magnificent gold medal of Queen Mary (Tudor), by Trezzo, executed presumably on the occasion of her marriage. This is the only example known of this medal in gold, and appears to have been finished by the artist himself. In addition the Department received a group of 18 gold staters of Alexander the Great, from the collection of the Grand Duke Alexander, presented by Mr. C. S. Gulbenkian ; another gold stater of Alexander, with seven of Lysimachus of Thrace, from the same collection, presented by Mr. Archer M. Huntington ; and two exceptionally fine and rare Greek coins, a decadadrachm of Syracuse signed by the artist Kimon and a tetradrachm of Amphipolis, deposited on indefinite loan by Mrs. Allatini.

The following are the principal publications issued during the year :—

British Museum Quarterly, vol. I, part 4 ; vol. II, parts 1-3.

Subject Index of Modern Books, 1921-25.

Catalogue of King's Music Library, vol. I (Handel).

Greek Printing Types (a fully illustrated catalogue of an exhibition held in the Museum, produced at the expense of the Lanston Monotype Corporation, and presented by them to the Trustees, the proceeds of sales to be devoted to the purchase of fine printed books).

Reproduction of early maps of Drake's voyages.

Catalogue of Greek Literary Papyri.

Al-'Ubaid : report of Joint Expedition to Mesopotamia.

Cuneiform Texts from Babylonian Tablets, part XL.

Cuneiform Texts from Cappadocian Tablets, part IV.

Corpus Vasorum Antiquorum, fasc. 3.

Catalogue of Greek Coins of Cyrenaica.

Guide to Bible Exhibition (reprint).

Guide to the Use of the Reading Room, new edition.

Guide to Exhibition of Printed Books and MSS. relating to Agriculture.

Guide to Exhibition of Flemish Miniatures.

Guide to Exhibition of Roman Coins.

Reproduction of Chinese Painting, " The Tiger."

Four reproductions in colour of illuminated MSS.

## Postcard Sets (all in colour) :—

Prints by William Blake	(15 cards)
Illustrations of Froissart's Chronicles	(6 cards)
Franciscan Miniatures	"
Water-Colours by J. S. Cotman	"
Miniatures from a Westminster Abbey Psalter	"
Miniatures from a Flemish Book of Hours	"

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM.

The figures for the attendance of visitors at the Natural History Museum for 1927 were the highest so far recorded, the number being 569,318 as against 511,313 in 1926. The previous record was 535,116 in 1909. The visitors on Sunday afternoons numbered 79,204 as against 78,818 in 1926, and the number of persons who attended the demonstrations of the Official Guide during the year was 13,554, as against 14,468 in 1926. The number of visitors on August Bank Holiday, 13,431, although not quite the largest hitherto recorded on any one day, was in striking contrast with the number, 506, on Boxing Day. The figures illustrate the effect on Museum attendances of two different types of bad bank-holiday weather.

His Majesty the King of Spain presented to the Museum a group of Spanish Mountain Goats, which was at first placed in the Central Hall and was later moved to the bridge on the staircase leading to the second floor. His Majesty the King of Spain visited the Museum and unveiled the group on 7 July in the presence of His Majesty the King.

The annual course of lectures under the Swiney foundation was begun during December and continued in January, 1928. The lecturer, Dr. Robert Campbell, took as his subject "Episodes in the Geological History of Scotland."

During the year there was a number of changes in the higher staff of the Museum. Sir Sidney Harmer retired on 9 March and was succeeded as Director by Mr. C. Tate Regan, F.R.S., whose place, as Keeper of Zoology, was filled by the promotion of Dr. W. T. Calman, F.R.S. Dr. C. J. Gahan retired in January and Dr. G. T. Prior, F.R.S., in December, from the Keeperships of Entomology and Mineralogy, and were succeeded by Major E. E. Austen, D.S.O., and Dr. L. J. Spencer, F.R.S., respectively.

A memorandum was prepared for, and evidence given to, the Royal Commission on Museums and Galleries with regard to the objects, work, and needs of the Museum. Further information on special questions was supplied to the Commission.

*The Museum Building.*

Although action in connection with the much needed extension of the Museum building awaits the issue of a report by the Royal Commission, the necessity for an immediate increase in the accommodation available for the Department of Entomology has led the Empire Marketing Board to provide funds for the erection of an extension of the existing Spirit

Building, which is to be occupied by the Department of Entomology until it is practicable for the permanent extension of that Department to be undertaken.

#### *Exhibition Galleries.*

The congestion in the Central Hall, North Hall and Whale Room was relieved by the removal of some exhibits and the re-arrangement of others. In the Central Hall the habitat group of African Elephants was completed, the large African Elephant was remounted and placed with an Indian Elephant in the middle of the Hall, the Mimicry case was reorganized and examples of mimicry in beetles added, new exhibits of Oceanic Angler-fishes and of Wood-wasps were placed on exhibition, and some of the large floor-cases illustrating variation were rearranged and provided with shorter labels. The statue of Darwin was moved to a position near the entrance, opposite that of Huxley, where it is seen to better advantage than in its old place on the staircase. The skeleton of the famous race-horse "Eclipse" was placed in the North Hall.

Additions to other galleries include a case of London birds in the Bird Gallery, and in the Geological Department a large armoured Dinosaur from the Cretaceous of Alberta, and the great Pleistocene elephant (*Elephas antiquus*) from Upnor, near Chatham, the preparation of which had occupied 15 years. In all Departments the routine work of revising, renewing and re-labelling exhibits was carried out.

#### *The Study Collections.*

Throughout the year the determination and incorporation of acquisitions, the description of new species, and, when pressure of current work permitted, the revision of the classification of groups continued to occupy most of the time of the scientific staff and of numerous voluntary and other temporary workers. It is opportune here to express the Trustees' sense of their indebtedness to the many specialists who have given their services during the year.

A few of the groups of animals to which special attention was given during 1927 are bats, monkeys, birds of prey, owls, and flatfishes. The study collection of British Mollusca was for the first time brought together and arranged on a geographical basis. In the Department of Entomology the reception and arrangement of the three-quarters of a million specimens comprised in the Oberthür Collection of Lepidoptera occupied much time. Many families of insects were revised. Fossil mammals, reptiles, and invertebrates received much attention in the Department of Geology, and in the Department of Minerals a re-organization of the Rock collection, which had been in progress for some years, was completed.

#### *Advisory and Economic Activities.*

Sir Sidney Harmer, K.B.E., F.R.S., continued after his retirement to represent the Museum on the Colonial Office Committee responsible for the direction of problems connected with Antarctic Whaling. A number of members of the scientific staff of the "Discovery" were given facilities to work at the Museum throughout the year.

Mr. C. Tate Regan, F.R.S., represented the Museum at the Annual Conference of the Museums Association at Douglas, Isle of Man, in July ; and Dr. F. A. Bather, F.R.S., and Dr. W. T. Calman, F.R.S., at the Fourth International Congress of Zoology at Budapest in September. Mr. C. Tate Regan, F.R.S., accepted an invitation to serve on a sub-Committee of the Committee of Civil Research to consider plans for investigating the Great Barrier Reef, and Dr. G. F. Herbert Smith served on another sub-Committee on geophysical surveying in Australia. Mr. F. Laing was appointed a member of an advisory committee set up by the Empire Marketing Board on the infestation of stored products by insects. Mr. M. A. C. Hinton represented the Museum at the Annual Congress of the Royal Sanitary Institute at Hastings in July. Mr. P. R. Lowe, O.B.E., represented the British Government at an International Conference on the protection of migratory wildfowl held in London in October, and continued to serve on the Advisory Committee appointed by the Home Secretary under the Wild Birds' Protection Acts. Mr. N. B. Kinnear represented the Museum on a Committee on the transportation of live animals set up by the Zoological Society.

Information with reference to the protection of animals throughout the British Empire and in some foreign countries continued to be supplied by the Colonial Office and the Foreign Office. A number of enactments calculated to retard the extinction of rare species give cause for satisfaction, but there is reason to fear that the destruction of the larger fauna is proceeding at too rapid a pace in many parts of Africa.

The main work of the scientific staff is the study and arrangement of the collections in order that they may be used by other workers in investigations that may be either economic or purely scientific. In addition the staff deals with a large number of enquiries on matters of economic importance, which are generally accompanied by specimens to be named, either minerals, fossils, plants or animals. In 1927 insect pests of stored products, wood-boring insects, mites infesting houses, ticks parasitic on cattle, millipedes attacking strawberries and tomato plants, and fungi causing disease or doing damage to timber and food, were the subject of numerous enquiries ; in each case the specimens were determined and advice was given.

#### *Acquisitions.*

The most interesting acquisition of the year was an entire school of about 130 False Killer Whales, stranded in the Dornoch Firth at the end of October, and collected by Mr. M. A. C. Hinton. Two of these, a bull and a cow, were sent to the Museum in the flesh and casts were prepared from them ; the skeletons of the remainder were roughly cleaned in Scotland and the work was completed at the Museum. In addition to the interest attaching to these specimens on account of the rarity of the species, it is expected that the material acquired will, when worked out, throw much light on breeding, rate of growth, and variation.

In this connection the thanks of the Trustees are due to the Board of Trade, to Mr. J. L. Chaworth-Musters, to Sir Robert Brooke, Bart., D.S.O., M.C., to Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Chance, and to Mrs. M. A. Russell, for help of various kinds.

The number of acquisitions in the several Departments during the year, apart from specimens received too late for incorporation and from books, was as follows :—

Department..	Purchases.	Donations, Exchanges, etc.	Total.
Zoology ... ...	3,524	31,272	34,796
Entomology ... ...	757,461	319,124	1,076,585
Geology ... ...	4,050	5,656	9,706
Mineralogy ... ...	909	3,389	4,298
Botany ... ...	13,728	14,559	28,287
	779,672	374,000	1,153,672

The number of separate presents received during the year was 2,510. In addition to the group of Spanish Mountain Goats presented by H.M. the King of Spain, and already mentioned, the more interesting donations were :—

From His Highness the Sultan of Perak : a mounted specimen of a young Sumatran Rhinoceros.

From the Government of the Union of South Africa ; a skull of a Sperm Whale.

From the Government of Kenya Colony : a pair of exceptionally large elephant tusks.

From Mrs. Ruxton : £50, in memory of her son, Commander R. E. Ruxton, to be used for the Mammal Collection.

From Miss Constance Tulk : seven autograph letters by Sir Richard Owen, Alfred Tulk, and Prof. Lorenz Olsen.

From Mr. R. St. G. Burke : 100 heads and skulls of Indian Carnivora and Ungulata.

From Major C. H. B. Grant : 114 skulls or mounted heads of game mammals from South and East Africa.

From Messrs. Lever Brothers : a complete skull with baleen plates of the Blue Whale.

From Mr. G. T. Bethune-Baker : a valuable collection of 8,406 specimens of Lepidoptera.

From Mr. Martin E. Moseley : 477 microscopical preparations of caddis-flies and stone-flies.

From Mr. A. C. Crowley : 738 photographic negatives and 288 lantern slides, mainly of birds, birds' nests, and eggs.

A complete copy of the nature film "Chang," together with gramophone records of sound effects synchronised with the picture, was presented to the Museum on condition that it should be placed in a fire-resisting case not to be opened until 4 September, 1977.

Important bequests to the Museum included the late Prof. Archibald Liversidge's collection of about 3,000 specimens of minerals, and the late Mr. George Charles Champion's collection of about 140,000 specimens of Coleoptera and Hemiptera Heteroptera. Five mounted

specimens of mammals were presented to the Museum during the year under the terms of the Rowland Ward Bequest.

Important purchases included the complete skeleton of a very large African Elephant ; 285 mammals, 903 birds and 35 clutches of birds' eggs, from Abyssinia ; mounted specimens of an African Leopard and a Persian Tiger, and the head of a White-faced Bush-Pig ; the skin and skeleton of a gorilla from the Belgian Congo (this specimen has been mounted largely at the expense of Lord Rothschild) ; a large collection of leeches, earthworms, and other invertebrates from Colombia ; butterflies from Tibet and Central Asia ; a natural mould of a large new Stegocephalian Labyrinthodont from the Lower Keuper rocks of Newtown, Sydney, New South Wales ; a new Ichthyosaur from the Lias of Holzmaden, Würtemburg ; the skull of a Miocene Crocodile from the Moghara Oasis, Egypt ; a magnificent crystal of Beryl from Brazil ; two very fine crystals of Dioptase (part of the purchase price of which was generously met by Mr. F. N. Ashcroft) ; and 8,000 slides of diatoms arranged with extreme care and skill by the late Mr. F. W. Payne.

#### *Collecting Expeditions.*

The work of the East Africa Expedition was continued throughout the year, Mr. F. W. H. Migeod being replaced as leader by Dr. John Parkinson, F.G.S., in May. Much material reached the Museum during the year, but there has as yet been no opportunity to study the greater part of it.

An expedition to Indo-China under Monsieur J. Delacour and Mr. Willoughby P. Lowe, financed by the Percy Sladen and Godman Trusts as well as by the Government of Indo-China, obtained valuable collections of birds, which were divided between the Natural History Museum in Paris and the British Museum (Natural History). A further (fourth) Expedition to Indo-China by the same collectors, made possible by the generosity of Mr. J. Spedan Lewis, commenced during the year.

Dr. Cuthbert Christy's Expedition to Lake Tanganyika concluded during the year ; a large and very valuable collection of fishes was made. Mr. F. W. Edward's expedition to Patagonia resulted in the acquisition for the Museum of some 22,000 insects, mainly Diptera, together with a series of frogs and some other zoological specimens.

Mr. W. Campbell Smith obtained a series of interesting rock-specimens in the course of a tour through France, Germany, and Switzerland, and Mr. A. J. Wilmott undertook a highly successful motor tour through Spain resulting in the acquisition for the Department of Botany of some 5,000 plants, mostly belonging to difficult groups.

Financial assistance was given to an Expedition by Capt. G. C. Shortridge to South-west Africa, and to one by Señor E. Budin to Southern Patagonia ; several collectors operated for the benefit of the Museum during the year in various parts of South America with the aid of generous contributions from Mr. Oldfield Thomas, F.R.S., and of grants from the Godman Exploration Fund.

#### *Exchanges, Loans, Etc.*

Exchanges were made with, and duplicate specimens presented to, a number of institutions and individuals.

His Royal Highness the Duke of York placed on loan at the Museum the mounted head of an Arabian Gazelle shot by him on Great Hanish Island in the Red Sea, representing a new sub-species.

*Publications.*

The Museum published during the year the first four issues of a quarterly, "The Natural History Magazine," the object of which is the promotion of public interest in the work of the Museum and in Natural History generally.

Other works published during the year were :—

Index Animalium, Sectio Secunda, 1801-1850. By C. Davies Sherborn. Parts XII, XIII, and XIV.

Report (No. 10) on Cetacea stranded on the British Coasts from 1913 to 1926. By Sir S. F. Harmer, K.B.E., Sc. D., F.R.S.

Insects of Samoa and other Samoan Terrestrial Arthropoda.

Maps 1 and 2.

Part II. (Hemiptera). Fasc. 1.

Part III. (Lepidoptera). Fasc. 1 and 2.

Part IV. (Coleoptera). Fasc. 1.

Part VI. (Diptera). Fasc. 1.

Part VII. (Other Orders of Insects). Fasc. 1.

Part VIII. (Terrestrial Arthropoda other than Insects). Fasc. 1.

"Terra Nova" Report, Zoology. Vol. VII. No. 2. Polychaeta, by Prof. W. B. Benham, F.R.S.

Catalogue of Type Specimens of Lepidoptera Rhopalocera. Part III. Nymphalidae. By A. G. Gabriel.

New Zealand Empididae. By J. E. Collin.

Guide to the Crustacea. By W. T. Calman, D.Sc., F.R.S.

Appendix to Catalogue of Meteorites. By G. T. Prior, D.Sc., F.R.S.

In addition to the above, 241 reports and descriptive papers based on the collections, by members of the staff and others, were published in scientific periodicals.

The following new picture-postcards were placed on sale :—

British Game Birds (10); Exotic Butterflies and Moths (30); Mimicry in Insects (10); British Orchids (20); Mediaeval Natural History (30); Oceanic Angler-Fishes (10).

C. TATE REGAN.

*Director.*

## BRITISH MUSEUM, W.C.1.

The Museum is open free to the public on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., but after 4 p.m. in January, February, November, December, and after 5 p.m. in March and October, some only of the galleries remain open, viz :—

On MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, and FRIDAYS.	<i>Ground Floor.</i> Exhibitions of Manuscripts and Printed Books.
	<i>Upper Floor.</i> Prehistoric Room ; Coins and Medals ; Roman-British, Anglo-Saxon, Oriental Religious, and Ethnographical Collections ; Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Egyptian Rooms ; Assyrian, Babylonian, Phoenician, Carthaginian, and Coptic Rooms ; Glass, China, and Mediaeval Collections.
On TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS, and SATURDAYS.	<i>Ground Floor.</i> Egyptian, Assyrian, Greek and Roman Sculpture.
	<i>Upper Floor.</i> Prehistoric, Terra-cotta, Gold Ornament, Greek and Roman Life, Bronze, and Vase Rooms ; First, Second, Third, and Fourth Egyptian Rooms ; Prints and Drawings Exhibition Gallery.

On Sunday Afternoons.—The whole of the Exhibition Galleries are open free from 2 to 6 p.m.

The Museum is closed on Good Friday and Christmas Day.

Public Lecture Tours of the Collections are conducted by Official Guide Lecturers at 12 noon and 3 p.m. daily, except on Sundays. Private parties are also conducted, under conditions to be learned on application verbally in the Entrance Hall, or by letter to the Guide Lecturer, British Museum, W.C.1.

## BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY), S.W.7.

The Museum is open free to the public on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in January, February, October, November, and December ; and to 6 p.m. from March to September, inclusivé.

On Sundays visitors are admitted from 2.30 to 6 p.m. The Museum is closed on Good Friday and Christmas Day.

Public Lecture Tours of the Collections are conducted free of charge by the Official Guide Lecturer at 12 noon and 3 p.m. daily, except on Sundays. The Guide Lecturer's services are also available for private parties. Application should be made either verbally in the Entrance Hall, or by letter to the Director, Natural History Museum, S.W.7.

**FOR OFFICIAL USE.**



# BRITISH MUSEUM

Annual Report of the  
General Progress of the Museum and of the  
British Museum (Natural History)  
for the year 1928:

WITH A

Return of the Number of Persons admitted to  
the Museums, and a Statement of the  
Principal Objects added to the  
Collections.

L O N D O N :

PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

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1929.

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70-10-28



NUMBER OF PERSONS ADMITTED TO VISIT THE BRITISH MUSEUM AND THE  
BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY).

A.—PERSONS ADMITTED to VIEW the GENERAL COLLECTIONS in the BRITISH MUSEUM in each Year from 1923 to 1928, both Years inclusive.

	1923.		1924.		1925.		1926.		1927.		1928.	
	Week-day.	Sun-day.										
January	-	91,639	3,997	78,280	3,670	76,586	1,991	79,922	8,556	70,856	4,985	81,915
February	-	77,260	5,660	70,719	3,986	70,435	3,941	71,260	6,632	67,205	4,667	71,418
March	-	75,823	5,906	71,205	6,595	74,629	7,034	75,810	6,686	81,269	6,075	75,056
April	-	99,225	8,517	90,470	6,191	92,023	6,347	86,585	5,795	90,276	6,652	94,654
May	-	89,013	5,117	81,712	6,070	75,508	7,712	59,233	7,123	77,804	6,562	89,434
June	-	73,962	4,423	86,876	7,982	83,394	5,334	74,882	4,515	97,973	7,210	87,638
July	-	84,171	5,944	119,056	8,052	107,874	7,806	100,072	6,634	111,970	8,774	116,077
August	-	112,710	5,594	135,578	15,323	120,102	9,002	106,974	8,331	139,587	7,754	133,792
September	-	86,096	7,968	111,048	9,427	96,303	8,165	80,849	6,124	101,633	7,714	97,570
October	-	95,399	6,334	95,363	8,219	95,356	6,823	85,364	8,038	92,311	8,247	103,543
November	-	73,136	3,975	77,048	5,451	73,267	6,039	75,136	4,194	80,287	4,283	77,385
December	-	70,596	3,528	79,405	3,246	71,047	3,067	66,559	2,150	69,215	1,207	68,081
Total Number of Persons admitted to view the General Collections	1,028,030	67,323	1,097,030	84,212	1,036,524	73,261	962,646	74,778	1,080,436	74,130	1,096,563	85,054
									1,037,424		1,154,566	1,181,617

## NUMBER OF VISITS OF STUDENTS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS

	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Reading Room	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Newspaper Room and Hendon Repository	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Map Room	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Department of Manuscripts	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Department of Oriental Printed Books and MSS.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Print Room	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Egyptian and Assyrian Department	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greek and Roman Department	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Galleries of Sculpture	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
British and Mediaeval Department	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Department of Ceramics and Ethnography	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coin and Medal Room	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	207,017	219,656	220,312	224,119	223,227	238,535	276,890

B.—PERSONS ADMITTED TO VIEW THE COLLECTIONS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM  
(NATURAL HISTORY), CROMWELL ROAD,  
in each Year from 1923 to 1928, inclusive.

	1923.			1924.			1925.			1926.			1927.			1928.		
	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.															
January	-	-	-	-	35,566	5,215	32,915	6,190	31,778	3,903	34,172	8,394	31,818	6,451	33,461	8,032		
February	-	-	-	-	26,921	6,530	28,510	5,715	30,477	5,483	28,032	6,635	26,228	6,344	29,966	7,807		
March	-	-	-	-	29,590	6,925	28,045	8,063	31,364	7,805	30,439	7,588	35,725	6,215	31,090	6,039		
April	-	-	-	-	46,581	8,037	43,274	5,775	48,897	5,969	46,273	6,764	49,808	6,774	64,540	11,494		
May	-	-	-	-	35,134	5,387	31,283	6,017	30,476	6,223	29,648	6,204	32,034	6,650	39,478	6,303		
June	-	-	-	-	29,690	4,373	43,791	7,080	38,173	4,009	32,783	4,609	44,541	5,356	31,057	5,477		
July	-	-	-	-	31,604	4,666	40,205	4,820	40,379	4,840	37,015	4,807	44,344	7,054	36,808	5,088		
August	-	-	-	-	50,667	5,525	61,202	12,298	56,172	7,750	56,021	5,917	85,962	6,767	69,601	7,419		
September	-	-	-	-	33,163	8,305	36,484	9,498	36,173	9,198	36,432	42,883	8,763	37,507	8,951			
October	-	-	-	-	27,633	6,819	35,716	6,588	31,907	6,294	34,968	9,063	36,389	8,850	39,300	7,980		
November	-	-	-	-	30,487	5,624	26,292	7,669	29,728	7,050	31,779	7,214	33,527	6,250	34,624	7,763		
December	-	-	-	-	32,533	5,525	29,340	5,131	31,844	3,739	33,503	4,705	27,255	3,730	30,994	6,494		
Total Number of Persons admitted				419,569	72,931	437,057	84,844	437,368	69,857	432,495	78,818	490,114	79,204	478,426	88,847			
to view the Natural History Collections (including students)				492,500	521,901	507,225	511,313	507,225	511,313	569,318	567,273							

THE NUMBER OF VISITS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF STUDY.

	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Zoology (including Art Students)							
Entomology	11,386	11,083	10,663	13,633	11,170	10,867	13,216
Ecology	5,277	4,755	5,034	5,332	4,892	4,607	4,943
Mineralogy	3,972	4,669	5,038	6,338	2,491	2,393	2,167
Botany	678	915	596	531	531	414	346
General Library	3,448	3,486	3,362	3,950	3,705	4,235	3,944
	1,297	836	699	531	775	934	943
Total	26,058	25,744	25,392	26,615	23,564	23,450	25,659

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM, BLOOMSBURY.

The attendances of visitors at the British Museum continued to show increases. In part this may have been due to the exceptional attraction of the exhibition of antiquities from Ur in the summer months, and to the extension of hours of Sunday opening in the autumn. On the other hand, the fine weather during the holiday season probably tended to divert visitors elsewhere. The total number was 1,181,617, as compared with 1,154,566 in 1927, thus beating even the record of the Wembley Exhibition year and, *a fortiori*, of any other year since 1851.

In the Departments the increase was also marked, especially in the case of the Reading Room. This, however, is largely due to a reform in the numeration of visitors. It was a matter of practical experience that the congestion in the Room was often as great as in the period before the war, although the recorded figures were much lower. An investigation showed that the record was inexact; and as the result the total rose from 182,214 to 215,449, a figure of the same order of magnitude as during the pre-war period, though still falling short of the 243,659 of 1913. This gives an average of 711 readers daily. The number of volumes supplied to readers in the Reading Room and North Library (exclusive of those to which readers have access on the open shelves and the periodicals in the North Library) was 1,505,761.

The number of visits to the Newspaper Room and Hendon Repository was 17,784, as against 17,396 in 1927, and 17,938 in 1913. To the Students' Rooms of the other Departments the visits amounted to 43,657, as against 38,925 in 1927 and 37,788 in 1913. An increase is shown in every case except the Medal Room, and most noticeably in the Department of Prints and Drawings, where the numbers rose from 9,266 to 11,551.

The lectures of the Official Guide Lecturers were attended by 34,471 persons. It will be understood, however, that the figures for this service can only be approximate, as exact numeration of those who listen to peripatetic lectures is impossible.

The demand for photography continues to increase, and both the official staff and outside photographers have been fully employed. The number of printed books and manuscripts supplied to the photographic studio was 6,191, besides 2,002 prints and drawings and at least 1,731 antiquities. An addition to the accommodation for photography (including photostat work) will evidently be necessary in the near future. The staff has already been increased by the addition of a Learner, the cost being far more than covered by the receipts from the sale of photographs.

It is hoped also to develope the sale of electrotypes and plaster casts. Some of the gold vessels from Ur lend themselves admirably to effective reproduction.

The principal temporary exhibition in the course of the year was that of the objects discovered by Mr. Woolley's expedition in the royal tombs of Ur. The wealth of objects in gold, silver, and copper, the personal ornaments of Queen Shubad and her attendants, the wonderful mosaics of scenes of Sumerian life in the fourth millennium B.C., the skilfully restored harps and chariots, and the evidences of extensive human

sacrifices as a part of the funeral ceremonies of princes, all combined to form an exhibition of quite exceptional importance and of popular interest. Other exhibitions included fine modern foreign printing; drawings, engravings, and woodcuts by Dürer; drawings and engravings by Goya and by Bewick; Chinese woodcuts; Japanese colour-prints; early maps (in connection with the International Geographical Congress); gifts received from or through the National Art-Collections Fund since its foundation; antiquities from the site of Lubaantun in British Honduras; and objects from Mr. Campbell Thompson's excavations at Kuyunjik (Nineveh).

The Royal Commission on National Museums and Galleries issued an Interim Report in the autumn, in which the Commissioners recommended as urgently necessary the provision of additional accommodation for the Library, including the eventual reconstruction of the entire book-stack and the removal of the whole Newspaper Department to Hendon. These recommendations have been accepted by H.M. Government, and work will be begun in 1929. At the same time (and made contingent on the acceptance of the Commission's proposals) Sir Joseph Duveen made the munificent offer to provide new and better accommodation for the Elgin and Nereid Marbles. Plans for carrying this offer into effect have been under consideration. The remaining needs of the Museum will be dealt with in the Commission's final report.

The total number of objects added to the collection in 1928 was 428,802, a decrease of 33,440 on the figures for the previous year. The diminution was almost wholly accounted for by a falling-off in newspapers and serials.

The figures for the several Departments are as follows:—

Printed Books :

Books and Pamphlets	...	...	...	33,821
Serials and Parts of Volumes	...	...	...	98,693
Maps and Atlases	...	...	...	1,191
Music	...	...	...	10,637
Newspapers (single numbers)	...	...	...	268,519
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	2,497
Manuscripts	...	...	...	603
Oriental Printed Books and MSS.	...	...	...	1,995
Prints and Drawings	...	...	...	3,097
Prints and Drawings (Oriental)	...	...	...	613
Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities	...	...	...	1,397
Greek and Roman Antiquities	...	...	...	148
British and Mediaeval Antiquities	...	...	...	562
Ceramics and Ethnography	...	...	...	1,153
Cards and Medals	...	...	...	3,876
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>428,802</b>

The principal acquisitions of the several Departments are as follows. Descriptions of the most interesting, often accompanied by illustrations, may be found in the issues of the *British Museum Quarterly* relating to the year. Special attention may be called to the two Roman gold medallions recording the recovery of Britain after the rebellion of Allectus; the seventh-century Frankish buckle presented to the Museum in honour of Mr. O. M. Dalton on the occasion of his retirement; and

the autograph MS. of Carlyle's *Past and Present*, presented by Mr. Gabriel Wells.

Among the principal accessions to the Department of Printed Books were the only known copy of the first edition of a work by the famous Arab medical writer, Rhasis, bequeathed by the late Sir William Osler; some valuable English tracts from the Petworth sale; facsimiles of the Washington MS. of the Minor Prophets, presented by the University of Michigan, and of the Codex Argenteus of the Gothic Gospels, presented by the University of Uppsala; and the first volume of the Ashendene Don Quixote, presented by C. H. St. John Hornby, Esq.

The Department of Manuscripts received on indefinite loan from the Baptist College, Bristol, some small but precious fragments of the Cottonian MS. of Genesis in Greek, of the fifth century. It also acquired the Chartulary of Ely Cathedral and a number of tracts and plays from the Petworth sale; an illustrated volume of astrological and historical tracts written in North Italy about 1440; an illustrated Latin Herbal from Italy of the fifteenth century, and a letter-book of Cardinal Pole. It was also fortunate in respect of autograph copies of literary and musical works. Outstanding among these was the original autograph of Carlyle's *Past and Present*, which Mr. Gabriel Wells of New York purchased, with a later draft, at auction for £2,200, subsequently offering the Museum its choice of either copy. Others were the autograph MS. of J. S. Mill's *Logic*, in 4 volumes; the original scores of Sir Charles Stanford's setting of Tennyson's *Revenge* and of Grieg's *Foran Syden's Kloster*; and a number of autograph scores by Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Schumann and Weber, presented by Mr. E. P. Warren in fulfilment of the wish of the late Mr. Ernst Perabo.

The Department of Oriental Printed Books and MSS. benefited by a gift of 47 Persian, nine Turkish and one Arabic MSS., including many with fine illustrations, presented by R. S. Greenshields, Esq. It also received from the Imperial University of Tokyo a facsimile of a very ancient Chinese MS. of the Commentary of Prince Shotoku, the principal founder of Japanese Buddhism; and it acquired by purchase a beautifully written copy of Tusi's Commentary upon Ibn Sina, written in A.D. 1276.

The Department of Prints and Drawings was enabled to purchase nearly 450 selected prints of foreign schools (mostly portraits) from the Northwick Park collection; and also acquired some early prints from Messrs. Boerner's sale at Leipzig. Of single acquisitions the most noticeable were the portrait of Maximilian I by Albrecht Dürer, presented by four friends through the National Art-Collections Fund; a woodcut of St. Anne from the Mainz Missal of 1518; a rare portrait of Mary, Queen of Scots, by Wierix; the portrait of Charles II by Sherwin acquired from the Gilbertson sale by the National Art-Collections Fund and presented in memory of Sir Sidney Colvin; and a portrait of A. Proust by Rodin, presented by C. S. Gulbenkian, Esq. The Oriental section of the Department purchased a large hand-coloured print by Okumura Masanobu, and received by bequest from the late James Orange, Esq. a number of paintings by the late Japanese artist Zeshin; and a Japanese screen by Tosa Mitsuaki was deposited on permanent loan by the Hon. Mrs. R. Wood.

The Department of Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities was conspicuously enriched by the wonderful discoveries of Ur, a large proportion of which remain in the Museum, while the most important of

the rest can be represented by good facsimiles. It was also fortunate in other acquisitions. It received from Dr. Alan Gardiner a collection of coloured drawings of Egyptian tomb-frescoes, made by Mrs. N. de Garis Davies ; a gold signet-ring of about the sixth century from Egypt and two Egyptian jewels, presented by Robert Mond, Esq. ; an Egyptian sphinx of the XIIth Dynasty, with the features of Amenemhat IV, presented by the National Art-Collections Fund ; and two miscellaneous collections of Egyptian antiquities. On the Mesopotamian side the most important event (apart from Ur) was the completion, with the assistance of the National Art-Collections Fund, of the purchase of the Mocatta collection, the outstanding feature of which was a carved Sumerian trough of about 3100 B.C.

The Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities acquired a number of interesting vases, including a Corinthian vase of the early sixth century B.C., a black-figured funeral vase, and three lekythoi of the fifth century with outline drawings on white ground, besides four from the Parrish collection and 28 from that of Mrs. W. E. Hall, presented by C. W. Scott, Esq. In addition, special reference should be made to a slab with Greek inscription from Sakkarah ; a Hellenistic bronze head, half life-size ; and a marble head of the second century from Asia Minor.

In the Department of British and Mediaeval Antiquities the friends of Mr. O. M. Dalton took the occasion of his retirement from the Keepership to present to the Museum in his honour an iron bronze-plated buckle of Frankish workmanship, of the seventh century, with one of the earliest known representations of the Crucifixion. Another noteworthy acquisition was a clock made by Tompion for the Astronomer Royal, Flamsteed, in 1676, which was probably the first clock made to go for 12 months on a single winding. It is still in good going order. The Department also obtained a silver astronomical watch made by Daniel Quare (1648-1724), and a wooden Staffordshire clog-almanack of the first half of the seventeenth century.

The Department of Ceramics and Ethnography received a large number of valuable accessions, almost wholly by gift or bequest. Prominent among these were a large bowl of thirteenth century Persian pottery, the greater portion of the purchase price of which was given by the National Art-Collections Fund, and a Ming cup with an European silver mount of about 1530, presented by Mrs. Leverton Harris in memory of her husband. Among other gifts were nine selected pieces from the collection of the late Rev. J. F. Bloxam, presented in pursuance of his wishes by his brother and sisters ; 22 pieces of Early Persian pottery, presented, with a cabinet, by H. Van den Bergh, Esq. ; 22 selected pieces of English and Meissen porcelain, formerly in the Frank Lloyd collection, presented by Mrs. Garwood ; a Chinese ink-pallet, presented by A. de Rothschild, Esq. ; a Rakka vase, presented by the National Art-Collections Fund ; and a selection of objects obtained by Sir Aurel Stein during his third Central Asian expedition, presented by the Government of India. On the ethnographical side, a remarkable bronze figure from Benin, representing a Portuguese soldier of the end of the sixteenth century was purchased, as was a series of objects from the Caroline and Marshall Islands ; and the Christy Trustees made their usual annual addition to the collections.

The Department of Coins and Medals made perhaps the most remarkable acquisition of the year, in two unique Roman gold medallions from a find made near Arras, commemorating the recovery of Britain for the Empire by Constantius Caesar after the revolt of Allectus. By far the

greater part of the purchase price of these pieces was contributed by the Goldsmiths' Company, and the remainder by the National Art-Collections Fund, H. Van den Bergh, Esq., and C. S. Gulbenkian, Esq. Other acquisitions included an unique electrum stater of Ionia, of the seventh century B.C. ; another, equally unique and of the same period, of Lydia or Miletus ; 16 gold coins of Carthage ; 36 gold coins of Alexander and his successors ; a fine tetradrachm of Lysimachus, and a number of Oriental coins.

The principal publications issued during the year were as follows :—

British Museum Quarterly, 4 parts.

Reproductions from Illuminated MSS., 4th series.

Six early printed Maps, exhibited on the occasion of the International Geographical Congress.

Four manuscript Maps of Great Britain, designed by Matthew Paris, exhibited on the same occasion.

Supplementary Catalogue of Sanskrit, Pali, and Prakrit Books.

Royal Inscriptions from Ur ; text and plates.

Corpus Vasorum Antiquorum, fasc. 4.

Marbles and Bronzes, new edition.

Catalogue of Greek Sculpture, new edition, vol. I, part 1.

Catalogue of Silver Plate in the Franks Bequest.

Guide to the Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities.

Guide to Dürer Exhibition.

Reproduction of Chinese painting, 'Mistress and Maid'.

Two reproductions in colour from illuminated MSS.

Postcards in colour :

Islamic Pottery.

Indian Paintings.

Greek Red-figured Vases.

Aspects of Mediaeval Life.

Miniatures of Saints.

Postcards in monochrome :

Drawings, Engravings and Woodcuts by Albrecht Dürer, 3 sets.

Drawings and Etchings by Rembrandt, 2 sets.

F. G. KENYON,

*Director and Principal Librarian.*

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM.

The attendance of visitors at the Natural History Museum in 1928 showed a slight decline from the figure for the previous year, the totals being 569,318 in 1927 and 567,273 in 1928. The fine weather in August and September caused a reduction in the number of visitors in those months; otherwise the monthly attendances were higher than in 1927. Visitors on Sunday afternoons numbered 88,847 as against 79,204 in 1927. The number of persons who attended the demonstrations of the Official Guide in 1928 was 13,826, an increase of 272 on the number, 13,554, for 1927.

Dr. F. A. Bather, F.R.S., Keeper of the Department of Geology, retired in February, and was succeeded by Dr. W. D. Lang.

### *The Museum Building.*

The interim report of the Royal Commission on National Museums and Galleries, issued in September, expressed the view that the Museum was, in its present congested condition, unable adequately to fulfil its function. Immediate expenditure on new buildings was therefore recommended to the amount of £123,500, also a further expenditure of £124,000 upon building urgently, but less immediately, required. The building which the Royal Commission consider should be undertaken at once includes half of a new building for the Department of Entomology, half of a new Whale Gallery, and an extension of the New Spirit Building. A reconstruction of part of the existing main building to improve the accommodation of the Department of Geology is also recommended. The less immediate portion of the Royal Commission's recommendations is for the completion of a new block to the north of the Museum, of which the new Whale Room will be a part.

### *The Exhibition Galleries.*

In one of the bays of the Central Hall an exhibition has been prepared illustrating the work on whaling problems carried out by the Royal Research Ship "Discovery". In the Zoological Department a new exhibition of Polyzoa has been placed in the Starfish Gallery, and several new casts have been added to the Whale Gallery. In the Geological Galleries the new exhibits include a specimen of the ichthyosaur *Eurhynosaurus*, a cast of an embryo-bearing ichthyosaur, and a supposed gigantic gastropod. An introductory series explaining the nature of fossils has been completed. A small exhibit illustrating the eruption of Mt. Etna in November, 1928, was set up in the Mineral Gallery, near the entrance to which has been placed a case demonstrating the fluorescence of minerals in ultra-violet rays.

Revision and rearrangement was carried on as usual throughout all Departments.

### *The Study Collections.*

The determination and incorporation of acquisitions, the description of new species, and related work, continued to occupy most of the time of the scientific staff and of numerous voluntary and other unofficial workers. It is opportune here to express the Trustees' sense of their indebtedness to the many specialists who have given their services during the year.

Prominent among the studies undertaken during the year was the analysis, still in progress, of the shoal of False Killer Whales stranded in the Dornoch Firth at the end of 1927. Among other groups of mammals to which special attention was given were monkeys, carnivores and ungulates. Numerous groups of birds, fishes, and invertebrates, including insects, were similarly studied. Plesiosaurs, and the dinosaur remains from East Africa occupied much time in the Department of Geology; and in the Department of Minerals a rearrangement and investigation of the Felspars was commenced. Groups of plants receiving special study were West Indian ferns, the genus *Combretum*, and African species of the family Leguminosae.

#### *Advisory and Economic Activities.*

Sir Sidney Harmer, K.B.E., F.R.S., continued during the year to represent the Museum on the Colonial Office committee responsible for the investigations carried out by the "Discovery" Expedition; and facilities and accommodation were given throughout the year for the working out at the Museum of the "Discovery" collections by the scientific staff of the Expedition. Mr. P. R. Lowe, O.B.E., continued to serve on the Advisory Committee appointed by the Home Secretary under the Wild Birds' Protection Acts.

Mr. N. D. Riley and Mr. F. W. Edwards represented the Museum at the Fourth International Congress of Entomology held at Ithaca, U.S.A., in August, Mr. Riley being also one of the official representatives of His Majesty's Government. Mr. W. E. Swinton represented the Museum at the Annual Conference of the Museums' Association at Glasgow in July; Mr. B. H. Soulsby represented the Museum at the Annual Conference of the Library Association held at Blackpool in September, and at the Centenary Celebrations of the Ashmolean Natural History Society at Oxford, in June. Mr. G. Tandy accompanied the Great Barrier Reef Expedition to study and collect seaweeds, and the services of Mr. A. T. Hopwood were lent to the Government of India for a period to work out the collection of fossil Proboscidea at Calcutta.

Advice has been given to the Egyptian Government in connexion with the establishment of a Natural History Museum at Cairo.

Questions connected with the protection of the native fauna of many parts of the Empire were studied, and advice given to the Colonial Office for the information of the Governments concerned. The Museum, in general, continued to be consulted by public Departments requiring expert assistance in relation to various problems.

In relation to economic matters specimens were named for a great number of enquirers and in many instances advice was given. Research students were given access to the collections and assisted in their investigations in all Departments throughout the year.

Among the more interesting of the questions upon which advice was given from the Departments of Zoology and Botany during the year were problems connected with the fur trade and with the administration of the Plumage Act, the infestation of buildings and of stored products by mites, occurrences of parasitic worms in man and domestic and other animals, and cases of disease or economic damage caused by fungi. In the Entomological Department work was done in relation to insects causing or transmitting disease, pests of stored products, wood-boring insects, and farm and garden pests.

*Acquisitions.*

The number of acquisitions in the several Departments during the year, apart from specimens received too late for incorporation and from books, was as follows :—

Department.	Purchases.	Donations, Exchanges, etc.	Total.
Zoology	5,012	28,820	33,832
Entomology	6,697	180,184	186,881
Geology	567	8,570	9,137
Mineralogy	211	764	975
Botany	15,993	14,425	30,418
	28,480	232,763	261,243

The number of separate presents received during the year was 2,664, among the more interesting of them being :—

From Major P. H. G. Powell-Cotton : an important series of monkeys, from the Cameroons and the Congo ; and 17 skins and skulls of West African ungulates and primates, including the co-type of a new Kudu and a specimen of the Western Giraffe.

From Sir Charles Markham, Bart. : a Congo specimen of Lord Derby's Eland.

From Mrs. Cossens : 66 skins, mounted heads and skulls of African and Indian game animals.

From Mr. R. Akroyd : a collection of skins and skeletons of African ungulates.

From the Government of Greenland : a fine specimen of Beluga, or White Whale, with three heads of the same species.

From Rear-Admiral H. Lynes, C.B., C.M.G. : 1,023 African birds and 50 nests of birds with 326 eggs.

From the Colonial Office : an important collection of fishes from Victoria Nyanza.

From Mr. D. Holderness and Captain Burgess : seven specimens of the giant Shipworm (*Kuphus arenarius*).

From Professor A. Corti, of Turin : 150 type-specimens of sponges.

From Mrs. Lister : the collections of the late Mr. J. J. Lister, F.R.S., consisting of 700 microscopic preparations of Foraminifera, 476 bird skins, and a large Zeiss microscope stand with three high-power objectives.

From Mrs. Eustace Bankes : her husband's collection of British Lepidoptera, consisting of upwards of 96,500 specimens.

From Mr. J. J. Joicey : a collection of Lepidoptera Heterocera, consisting of 5,926 moths, 14 larvae and 29 cocoons.

From the Portland Cement Selling and Distributing Company : a very large ichthyosaur and the skeleton of a plesiosaur from Harbury, Warwickshire.

From Mr. E. M. Venables : a series of more than 400 fossils collected bed by bed from the London Clay of Bognor.

From the New Jersey Zinc Company : a block of Willemite weighing 139 lb.

From Mr. C. C. Lacaita : 3,000 specimens of European plants, mainly Italian and Spanish.

Three mounted mammals were presented to the Museum during the year under the terms of the Rowland Ward bequest ; and the Trustees received from the executors of the late Mr. William Oldfield a valuable set of mineral specimens, eight in number, consisting of magnificent groups of large crystals of calcite, quartz, and galena, associated with smaller crystals of zinc-blende and copper pyrites. These specimens, which came from the Snailbeach Mine in Shropshire, are exhibited near the entrance to the Mineral Gallery.

Important purchases included a mounted specimen of the King Cheetah ; a stuffed giant tortoise from the Seychelles ; 75 mammals, 174 reptiles and batrachians, 324 fishes, and a number of parasitic worms from Brazil ; 900 specimens (representing 400 species) of Polychaeta from European waters ; 33 type and six co-type specimens of Lepidoptera from the late Sir Frederick Jackson's collection ; 26 type and five co-type specimens of Japanese Lepidoptera ; the late Prof. E. Piaget's collection of Mallophaga, consisting of 2,150 preparations and including 330 types ; a specimen of the fossil fish *Squatina acanthoderma* from Bavaria ; a fine specimen of a rare fish from the Lias of Holzmaden, Würtemburg ; an exceptionally fine topaz crystal weighing 2,290 grams (5 lb.) from Madagascar ; 739 Moroccan plants ; and 505 flowering plants and ferns from the British Cameroons.

#### *Collecting Expeditions.*

The work of the British Museum East Africa Expedition continued at Tendaguru, Tanganyika Territory, during the year, under Dr. John Parkinson and Major T. Deacon. The results were disappointing, owing in part to the fact that Dr. Parkinson had to come to England for a period in the middle of the year on account of his health, and that Major Deacon had to leave Tendaguru owing to illness almost as soon as Dr. Parkinson returned. During the rainy season when excavation at Tendaguru was impracticable, Dr. Parkinson explored certain fossil deposits in Kenya Colony. It is hoped with the aid of private subscriptions and of a grant from the Government of Tanganyika Territory to continue the work at Tendaguru in 1929.

Dr. Cuthbert Christy returned from his expedition to Lake Tanganyika, having made a very valuable collection of fishes comprising several thousand specimens.

An important zoological collection was presented to the Museum as a result of a joint Franco-British expedition to French Indo-China, made during 1927-1928, under the leadership of Monsieur Jean Delacour. The British Museum, which was represented by Mr. Willoughby P. Lowe, was enabled to participate by the generosity of Mr. J. Spedan Lewis, who contributed £500 to the funds of the expedition for that special purpose. The specimens collected were shared with the Paris Museum, the British Museum receiving 151 mammals, 1,794 birds, including 12 types, and 78 birds in spirit, and a number of reptiles and fishes.

*Publications.*

The following new works were published :—

Index Animalium, Sectio secunda, 1801–1850. By C. Davies Sherborn. Parts XV, XVI, and XVII.

Insects of Samoa and other Samoan Terrestrial Arthropoda.

Part I. (Orthoptera and Dermaptera). Fasc. 1 and 2.

Part II. (Hemiptera). Fasc. 2.

Part III. (Lepidoptera). Fasc. 3.

Part IV. (Coleoptera). Fasc. 2.

Part V. (Hymenoptera). Fasc. 1.

Part VI. (Diptera). Fasc. 2.

Part VII. (Other Orders of Insects). Fasc. 2 and 3.

Diptera, Brachycera and Athericera of the Fiji Islands. By Mario Bezzi.

Diptera of Patagonia and South Chile. Part I. By C. P. Alexander.

Monograph of Meandroid Astraeidae (issued as Catalogue of Corals, Vol. VII). By G. Matthai.

Memoir on Rhodesian Man. By W. P. Pycraft and others.

Catalogue of Pontian Bovidae. By G. E. Pilgrim, D.Sc., and A. T. Hopwood.

Memoir on the Upnor Elephant. By the late Chas. W. Andrews, D.Sc., F.R.S., and C. Forster Cooper.

Catalogue of Mesozoic Mammalia. By G. G. Simpson, Ph.D.

Catalogue of Fossil Cirripedia, Vol. I. By T. H. Withers.

Catalogue of Rocks, Part I. By W. Campbell Smith.

Guide to Arachnida.

In addition to the above official publications, 220 reports and descriptive papers based on the collections, by members of the staff and others, were published in scientific periodicals.

There were placed on sale during the year 20 new picture postcards of British Spiders; 28 of British Trees; and 10 illustrating the Life Histories of British Butterflies and Moths. The last-named pictures were also issued in booklet form.

The publication of the "Natural History Magazine" was continued.

C. TATE REGAN.

*Director.*

## BRITISH MUSEUM, W.C.1.

The Museum is open free to the public on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., but after 4 p.m. in January, February, November, December, and after 5 p.m. in March and October, some only of the galleries remain open, viz:—

On MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, and FRIDAYS.	<i>Ground Floor.</i>
	Exhibitions of Manuscripts and Printed Books.
On TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS, and SATURDAYS.	<i>Upper Floor.</i>
	Prehistoric Room ; Coins and Medals ; Roman-British, Anglo-Saxon, Oriental, Religious, and Ethnographical Collections ; Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Egyptian Rooms ; Assyrian, Babylonian, Phoenician, Carthaginian, and Coptic Rooms ; Glass, China, and Mediaeval Collections.
	<i>Ground Floor.</i>
	Egyptian, Assyrian, Greek and Roman Sculpture.
	<i>Upper Floor.</i>
	Prehistoric, Terra-cotta, Gold Ornament, Greek and Roman Life, Bronze, and Vase Rooms ; First, Second, Third, and Fourth Egyptian Rooms ; Phoenician and Carthaginian Rooms ; Prints and Drawings Exhibition Gallery.

On Sunday Afternoons.—The whole of the Exhibition Galleries are open free from 2 to 6 p.m.

The Museum is closed on Good Friday and Christmas Day.

Public Lecture Tours of the Collections are conducted by Official Guide Lecturers at 12 noon and 3 p.m. daily, except on Sundays. Private parties are also conducted, under conditions to be learned on application verbally in the Entrance Hall, or by letter to the Guide Lecturer, British Museum, W.C.1.

Photographs of objects in the Museum can be supplied. Regulations and prices may be had on application to the Director.

Casts from sculptures in the Museum may be obtained from the Department of Casts, Victoria and Albert Museum, S.W.7.

## BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY), S.W.7.

The Museum is open free to the public on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in January, February, October, November, and December ; and to 6 p.m. from March to September, inclusive.

On Sundays visitors are admitted from 2.30 to 6 p.m. The Museum is closed on Good Friday and Christmas Day.

Public Lecture Tours of the Collections are conducted free of charge by the Official Guide Lecturer at 12 noon and 3 p.m. daily, except on Sundays. The Guide Lecturer's services are also available for private parties. Application should be made either verbally in the Entrance Hall, or by letter to the Director, Natural History Museum, S.W.7.

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# BRITISH MUSEUM

Annual Report of the  
General Progress of the Museum and of the  
British Museum (Natural History)  
for the year 1929 :

WITH A

Return of the Number of Persons admitted to  
the Museums, and a Statement of the  
Principal Objects added to the  
Collections.

London :

PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

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NUMBER OF PERSONS ADMITTED TO VISIT THE BRITISH MUSEUM AND THE  
BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY).

A.—PERSONS ADMITTED to View the GENERAL COLLECTIONS in the BRITISH MUSEUM in each Year from 1924 to 1929, both Years inclusive.

	1924.		1925.		1926.		1927.		1928.		1929.		
	Week-day.	Sun-day.											
January	-	78,280	3,670	76,586	1,991	79,922	8,556	70,856	4,985	81,915	4,776	73,193	5,838
February	-	70,719	3,986	70,435	3,941	71,260	6,632	67,205	4,667	71,418	3,905	61,226	6,178
March	-	71,205	6,595	74,629	7,034	75,810	6,686	81,269	6,075	75,056	4,449	66,383	6,792
April	-	90,740	6,191	92,023	6,347	86,585	5,795	90,276	6,652	94,654	8,887	101,243	6,398
May	-	81,712	6,070	75,508	7,712	59,233	7,123	77,804	6,562	89,434	5,399	83,448	6,968
June	-	86,876	7,982	83,394	5,334	74,882	4,515	97,973	7,210	87,638	5,836	80,918	9,039
July	-	119,056	8,052	107,874	7,806	100,072	6,634	111,970	8,774	116,077	9,363	112,479	8,501
August	-	135,578	15,323	120,102	9,002	106,974	8,331	139,587	7,754	133,792	10,013	151,876	9,821
September	-	111,048	9,427	96,303	8,165	80,849	6,124	101,683	7,714	97,570	10,404	99,607	8,813
October	-	95,363	8,219	95,356	6,823	85,364	8,038	92,311	8,247	103,543	8,870	103,510	8,917
November	-	77,048	5,451	73,267	6,039	75,136	4,194	80,287	4,283	77,385	7,212	86,639	7,773
December	-	79,405	3,246	71,047	3,067	66,559	2,150	69,215	1,207	68,081	5,940	77,192	8,766
Total Number of Persons admitted to view the Gene- ral Collections		1,097,030	84,212	1,036,524	73,261	962,646	74,778	1,080,436	74,130	1,096,563	85,054	1,097,954	93,804
		1,181,242		1,109,785		1,037,424		1,154,566		1,181,617		1,191,758	



B.—PERSONS ADMITTED TO VIEW THE COLLECTIONS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM  
 (NATURAL HISTORY), CROMWELL ROAD,  
 in each Year from 1924 to 1929, inclusive.

	1924.			1925.			1926.			1927.			1928.			1929.		
	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.													
January	-	-	-	32,915	6,190	31,778	3,903	34,172	8,394	31,818	6,451	33,461	8,032	36,210	5,492			
February	-	-	-	28,510	5,715	30,477	5,483	28,032	6,635	26,228	6,344	29,906	7,807	24,702	6,596			
March	-	-	-	28,063	8,063	31,264	7,805	30,439	7,588	35,725	6,215	31,090	6,639	28,817	9,199			
April	-	-	-	43,274	5,775	48,897	5,969	46,273	6,764	49,808	6,774	64,540	11,494	59,109	6,945			
May	-	-	-	31,283	6,017	30,476	6,223	29,648	6,204	32,034	6,650	39,478	6,303	37,591	7,342			
June	-	-	-	7,080	38,173	4,009	32,783	4,609	44,541	5,356	31,057	5,477	29,065	7,940				
July	-	-	-	40,205	4,820	40,379	4,807	37,015	4,807	44,344	7,054	36,808	5,088	38,979	5,915			
August	-	-	-	61,202	12,298	56,172	7,750	56,021	5,917	85,962	6,767	69,601	7,419	64,892	7,128			
September	-	-	-	36,484	9,498	36,173	6,792	37,432	6,918	42,483	8,763	37,507	8,951	30,403	7,880			
October	-	-	-	35,716	6,588	31,907	6,294	34,998	9,063	36,389	8,850	39,300	7,980	39,870	7,648			
November	-	-	-	26,292	7,669	29,728	7,050	31,779	7,214	33,527	6,250	34,624	7,763	32,600	8,083			
December	-	-	-	29,340	5,131	31,844	3,739	33,603	4,705	27,255	3,730	30,994	6,494	30,574	8,218			
Total Number of Persons admitted to view the Natural History Collections (including students)	437,057	84,844	437,368	69,857	432,495	78,818	490,114	79,204	478,426	88,847	452,812	54,198	88,386					
	521,901	521,901	507,225	511,313	511,313	511,313	569,318	569,318	567,273	567,273	567,273	567,273	567,273	567,273	567,273	567,273	567,273	

NUMBER OF VISITS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF STUDY.

	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
Zoology (including Art Students)	11,083	10,663	13,633	11,170	10,867	13,216	13,281
Entomology	4,755	5,034	5,332	4,892	4,607	4,943	4,308
Geology	4,669	5,038	2,638	2,491	2,393	2,167	1,724
Mineralogy	915	596	531	531	414	346	409
Botany	3,486	3,362	3,950	3,705	4,235	3,944	3,683
General Library	836	699	531	775	934	943	576
Total	25,744	25,392	26,615	23,564	23,450	25,559	23,981

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM, BLOOMSBURY.

The total number of visitors to the Museum again showed a slight rise, the figures being 1,191,758 as against 1,181,617 in 1928. The greater part of this increase was no doubt due to the longer hours of opening on Sunday afternoons, which came into force in October, 1928. As compared with 1927 (the last complete year in which the shorter hours were in force) the Sunday attendances showed an advance of just over 19,000. In general, the attendances were less in the first half of the year and more in the second half ; August, in particular, with a total of 161,697 showed the highest monthly total on record.

The visits of students to particular departments showed a slight falling off from the high total of 1928 (272,352 as compared with 276,890). Reading Room attendances were less by 1,000.

The number of volumes supplied to readers during the year (exclusive of those on the open shelves of the Reading Room) was 1,433,411, about 70,000 less than in 1928. The number of Readers was 214,375, an average of 707 daily. Readers admitted to the Hendon Repository to consult newspapers which could not conveniently be sent to the Museum amounted to 503.

The lectures of the Official Guide-Lecturers were attended by approximately 34,900 persons.

The pressure on the photographic studio continues. There is a greatly increasing demand for photostat reproductions of whole volumes or large portions of them, and single prints are constantly required for departmental purposes, for exchange, or for the assistance of foreign scholars. The number of volumes issued for photographic purposes by the Departments of Printed Books and MSS. was 4,839 ; but this gives no indication of the number of negatives taken or of photostat reproductions. In addition, 2,334 prints and drawings were photographed, and 3,918 antiquities, while 756 electrotypes and 3,825 casts were made from coins. It is evident that an enlarged studio and staff could be profitably employed ; but the extension of the studio offers serious structural difficulties.

Temporary exhibitions in the galleries during the year included the discoveries of the previous season at Ur, which for the second time included large numbers of gold objects from royal tombs of the fourth millennium B.C. ; drawings by Rembrandt and prints of the Dutch School, to coincide with the Dutch Exhibition at Burlington House ; prehistoric Egyptian antiquities from the excavations of Mr. Guy Brunton ; modern fine printing, both British and foreign ; British drawings and etchings of the 19th century ; and Japanese screens and Indian paintings.

The Royal Commission on National Museums and Galleries completed its labours during the year, and issued its Final Report in two parts, the second of which appeared a few weeks after the end of the year. Some of the recommendations affecting the Museum have already been put

into effect by administrative action ; others have to await either legislative authorisation or the provision of funds ; but in general it may be said that the reports of the Commission have been welcomed as showing sympathy with the problems of the Museum and as likely to contribute, if effect is given to them, to the improvement of its service.

The total number of objects added to the collections in 1929 was 441,778, an increase of 12,976 on the figures for the previous year entirely accounted for by an increase in periodicals and newspapers counterbalancing a diminution in this item reported last year.

The figures for the several Departments were as follows :—

Printed Books :

Books and Pamphlets	...	...	...	34,322
Serials and Parts of Volumes	...	...	...	101,497
Maps and Atlases	...	...	...	1,223
Music	...	...	...	9,980
Newspapers (single numbers)	...	...	...	281,244
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	2,657
Manuscripts	...	...	...	350
Oriental Printed Books and MSS.	...	...	...	2,380
Prints and Drawings	...	...	...	2,463
Prints and Drawings (Oriental)	...	...	...	232
Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities	...	...	...	748
Greek and Roman Antiquities	...	...	...	80
British and Mediaeval Antiquities	...	...	...	517
Ceramics and Ethnography	...	...	...	852
Coins and Medals	...	...	...	3,233
				441,778

The most notable accessions were probably the remarkable set of early Celtic bronze vessels (5th century B.C.) found in Lorraine and purchased with the help of Lord Melchett, Mr. F. A. Szarvasy, Sir Percival David, and other friends ; the Occasional Papers written by Dr. Johnson in the name of and on behalf of the unfortunate Dr. Dodd, of which the only known copy was identified by Mr. T. D. Barlow and bought with his help ; the unique MS. of a hitherto unknown English mediaeval poem entitled *Mum Sothsegger*, bought with the assistance of the Early English Text Society ; and the autograph manuscripts of nearly the whole series of Mr. Galsworthy's *Forsyte Chronicles*, presented by the author.

The other principal accessions of each Department are enumerated below. Attention may again be called to the fact that fuller descriptions of these and other acquisitions of the Museum, often with illustrations, are to be found in the *British Museum Quarterly* (2s. a number).

The Department of Printed Books acquired, in addition to the Johnson-Dodd volume, an unrecorded Missal of Salamanca, 1512 ; the unique copy of the first edition of Lord Herbert of Cherbury's *De Veritate* ; *The Seven Pillars of Wisdom*, by T. E. Lawrence, presented

by the author ; and two sumptuous modern publications, viz., the Catalogue of the Schwerdt Collection of books, MSS., prints and drawings relating to hunting, hawking and shooting, presented by Mr. C. F. G. R. Schwerdt, and the first instalment of the Boswell Papers, presented by the owner, Colonel Isham.

The Department of Manuscripts received from His Majesty the King the original typescript, with autograph signature, of His Majesty's Message to His People on his recovery from his illness ; an illuminated French Bible of the 13th century, presented by Mrs. H. Yates Thompson in memory of her husband ; the Middleton and Kenelm Digby diplomatic papers, in 33 volumes ; some letters of Charles Greville to Colonel Windham, during the Crimean War, presented by Mr. Gabriel Wells ; a bound set of the special correspondence of Lord Curzon while Viceroy of India ; an autograph play, *The Divine Gift*, by Henry Arthur Jones, presented by his daughter, Mrs. Thorne ; and the *Mum Sothsegger* MS. and the Galsworthy holographs, mentioned above.

In the Department of Prints and Drawings, the most important drawings acquired were a previously unidentified drawing by Dürer of "The Maries at the foot of the Cross," presented by Sir J. Duveen and Mr. E. Innes ; a "Visitation" by Burgkmair ; "Aristotle and Phyllis", by an Antwerp artist of about 1520 ; "The Stoning of the Wicked Elders", by Jan Swart ; a selection of drawings by old masters, including Boucher, Greuze, and Tiepolo, presented by Mrs. Bateson ; and the complete set of watercolour illustrations (567 in number) of Young's "Night Thoughts", by Blake, presented by Mr. Geoffrey Keynes and Mrs. F. W. Emerson. Among prints, special mention may be made of the very fine impression of Altdorfer's "Virgin and Child in a Landscape" ; seven rare progress proofs of colour-mezzotints by J. C. Le Blon ; a selection of French line engravings and colour-prints of the 18th century, partly presented by Viscount Bearsted, Sir Otto Beit, and Messrs. E. and R. Mond ; and a collection of etchings and lithographs by Whistler, bequeathed by Mr. A. K. Studd. In the Oriental section of the Department the most notable accession was a fine Chinese painting of the Ming period, for which the greater part of the purchase price was contributed by Sir Herbert Thompson, Bart. Among other purchases were a Chinese painting of a Lohan, and colour-prints by Utamaro, Hiroshige, and others.

The Department of Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities was again enriched by a share of the wonderful discoveries in the royal tombs of Ur, to which are added electrotypes of the most remarkable of the objects which have fallen to the share of Baghdad and Philadelphia. The Department also received large and important selections from the discoveries of the Egypt Exploration Society at Armant and el-Amarna, of the British School of Archaeology in Egypt at Qau and Badari, and of Mr. Guy Brunton in the same neighbourhood. Other acquisitions included an open-work gold plaque of the XIIth Dynasty, presented by the Birmingham Jewellers and Silversmiths' Association, through Mr. J. R. Ogden, who also gave a gold Egyptian relic-case from Beirut ; the "Dramatic Papyrus" from the Ramesseum of Thebes, presented jointly by Dr. Alan Gardiner and the British School ; a beautiful series of reproductions of wall-paintings from Egyptian tombs, deposited on indefinite loan by Dr. Gardiner ; a choice selection of small Egyptian antiquities from the collection of the late General Sir John Maxwell, presented by Mr. Robert Mond and six other members of the Council of

the Egypt Exploration Society ; and over a thousand negatives of air-photographs of sites in the Near East, presented by Mr. O. G. S. Crawford and the Air Ministry.

The Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities acquired a fine cup by the well-known artist Epiktetos or a member of his school, and six other Greek or Graeco-Italian vases of importance ; also a basalt disk from Egypt with a head of Sarapis in relief and a Greek inscription.

The Department of British and Mediaeval Antiquities, in addition to the Celtic bronzes mentioned above, received from Mr. A. W. Rumney the interesting mazer known as the Rumney mazer ; twenty-four Scythian bronzes of the Early Iron Age from South Russia ; and an Anglo-Saxon sword of about A.D. 700 from the Thames.

The Department of Ceramics and Ethnography acquired two neolithic burial urns from China, presented by Professor Andersson ; 23 pieces of Chinese porcelain, bequeathed by Mr. H. B. Harris ; a Chinese model of a tower, of the Han period, presented by Mrs. Chester Beatty ; a Persian ewer in the form of an ox with rider ; a Maya plaque in jadeite, with a human face in high relief, presented by Mrs. H. Yates Thompson ; and an ethnographical series from Polynesia, presented by Lord Leverhulme.

The Department of Coins and Medals obtained two of the very rare tetradrachms of Mende, presented by Mr. S. L. Courtauld and Mr. C. S. Gulbenkian ; a rare silver coin of Cnidus, struck after the battle of Cnidus in 394 B.C. ; 267 bronze coins of Athens, presented by the Rev. E. Rogers ; sixteen rare Indian gold coins and a gold sovereign of Henry VIII, presented by Mr. H. Van den Bergh ; and 88 gold nobles of reigns from Edward III to Henry VI, from the Horsted Keynes Treasure Trove.

Finally, two most desirable acquisitions remained in suspense at the end of the year. In July, 1929, two illuminated MSS. of the first importance, the famous Luttrell Psalter and the hitherto unknown but extraordinarily interesting Psalter and Book of Hours of John, Duke of Bedford, brother of Henry V, were in the market from the Lulworth Castle Library. By the kindness of the owner, Mrs. Alfred Noyes, the Luttrell Psalter was withdrawn from auction and sold direct to the British Museum for £31,500 ; the Bedford book was bought at auction on behalf of the Museum for £33,000. The money for both purchases was advanced, with extraordinary kindness, by Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan, as a loan for one year, without interest, on the understanding that if the price of either MS. was not repaid within the year, that MS. should become his property. Substantial gifts from the National Art-Collections Fund and His Majesty's Government, in conjunction with private subscriptions and the funds at the Trustees' disposal, have covered the obligation incurred by the Museum in respect of the Luttrell Psalter, which may therefore be included among the acquisitions of the year ; but the fate of the Bedford book is still in suspense.

The following publications have been issued in the course of the year :—

Catalogue of the King's Music Library, parts II and III.

Facsimile of Exultet Roll, in commemoration of 1,400th anniversary of the foundation of Monte Cassino.

Guide to Exhibition of Contemporary Fine Printing.

Guide to Centenary Exhibition of Egerton MSS.

Guide to Select Greek and Roman Inscriptions, 2nd ed.

Guide to Exhibition of Greek and Roman Life, 3rd ed.

Pamphlet on the Book of the Dead, 2nd ed.

Pamphlet on Scarabs.

How to Observe in Archaeology, 2nd ed.

Reproductions of five Chinese and Japanese paintings.

Reproductions of three mediaeval illuminations and two Indo-Persian miniatures.

Postcards in colour :

Alphabet of initials from English illuminated MSS. of the 13th century.

Vignettes by Thomas Bewick.

Postcards in monochrome :

Four sets of Greek, Etruscan, and Roman Bronzes.

Watches.

Report of excavations at Ur, 1928-29.

Report of expedition to British Honduras, 1928.

British Museum Quarterly, vol. III, part 4, vol. IV, parts 1-3.

F. G. KENYON,

*Director and Principal Librarian.*

BRITISH MUSEUM,

1 April, 1930.

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM.

The total number of visitors to the Natural History Museum during 1929 was 541,198 as compared with 567,273 in 1928. The visitors on Sunday afternoons numbered 88,386 as against 88,847 in the previous year ; and the number of persons who attended the demonstrations of the Official Guide during the year was 12,972 as against 13,826 in 1928.

### *The Museum Building.*

The extension of the New Spirit Building for the use of the Department of Entomology was almost completed ; and the erection of a second storey of studies over the eastern half of the north colonnade, to provide additional accommodation for the Department of Geology, was begun. The construction of iron galleries in certain of the basement rooms in the same Department was commenced. Progress was made with the installation of the lift given by the late Mr. Oldfield Thomas, F.R.S. ; and work was started on a lift for the carriage of heavy specimens between the basement and the ground floor of the Department of Geology. Plans were approved for the new Whale Room. In the last few days of the year H.M. Office of Works took possession of the part of the Museum grounds to the north-east of the main building upon which the new Museum of Practical Geology is to be built.

### *The Exhibition Galleries.*

In the Central Hall a case was placed on exhibition containing specimens and photographs to illustrate the life-history of locusts, locust outbreaks, methods of control, etc.

New mammals exhibited include a giant eland and a young Sumatran rhinoceros. A series of photographs of African big game was displayed in the lower Mammal Gallery. A model of a rare octopod was made and placed on exhibition in the Shell Gallery. The new exhibits in the Geological Galleries include a plesiosaur discovered at Harbury, Warwickshire, a collection of fossil fishes from Queensland, and an exhibit illustrating the evolution of certain Gault ammonites. In the Mineral Gallery a large mass of strongly magnetic lodestone was set up and a collection of polished marbles was framed and placed on the wall ; in the corridor outside the same gallery a large block of triboluminescent zinc-blende was placed on exhibition.

Revision and re-arrangement was carried on as usual throughout all Departments.

### *The Study Collections.*

The determination and incorporation of acquisitions, the description of new species, and related work, continued to occupy most of the time of the scientific staff and of numerous voluntary and other unofficial workers. It is opportune here to express the Trustees' sense of their indebtedness to the many specialists who have given their services during the year.

The study of the False Killer Whales stranded in Dornoch Firth in 1927 was continued. Among other groups of mammals to which special attention was given were monkeys, carnivores and ungulates.

Numerous groups of birds, fishes and invertebrates, including insects, were similarly studied, particular attention being given to the deep-sea fishes collected by the Danish Oceanographical Expedition 1920-22, of which a large series of specimens was retained for the Museum. In the Geological Department a great part of the year's work was occupied with the study of the remains of plesiosaurs and dinosaurs and in the arrangement of the Buckman collection, comprising 25,000 ammonites and brachiopods. A complete X-ray installation was introduced in the Department of Minerals for the investigation of crystalline structure, and the chemical laboratory in the same Department was re-organized and partly re-equipped. Numerous groups of plants were the subjects of special study, and the British mosses were re-arranged on a more modern system.

#### *Advisory and Economic Activities.*

Sir Sidney Harmer, K.B.E., F.R.S., continued during the year to represent the Museum on the Colonial Office Committee responsible for the investigations carried out by the "Discovery" Expedition; and facilities and accommodation were given throughout the year for the working out at the Museum of the "Discovery" collections by the scientific staff of the Expedition. Mr. P. R. Lowe, O.B.E., continued to serve on the Advisory Committee appointed by the Home Secretary under the Wild Birds' Protection Acts.

Dr. A. B. Rendle, F.R.S., Dr. L. J. Spencer, F.R.S., Mr. J. Ramsbottom, O.B.E., and Mr. W. N. Edwards attended the meetings of the British Association in South Africa. Valuable collections were made, especially by Dr. Spencer and Mr. Edwards, who also attended the International Geological Congress at Pretoria to which Dr. Spencer was one of the representatives of H.M. Government.

The Director and Dr. G. F. Herbert Smith attended the Annual Conference of the Museums Association at Worthing from 1 to 5 July. Dr. Herbert Smith also represented the Museum at the centenary celebrations of the Natural History Society of Northumberland, Durham, and Newcastle-on-Tyne. Mr. F. Laing attended the International Congress on Apparatus used against Enemies of Cultivated Plants at Lyons on 24 and 25 July, and Mr. B. H. Soulsby the Annual Conference of Special Libraries at Cambridge from 20 to 22 September. Dr. A. B. Hastings and Mr. G. Tandy represented the Museum at the Meeting of the British Waterworks Association held in London on 21 November.

Questions connected with the protection of the native fauna of many parts of the Empire were studied, and advice was given to the Colonial Office for the information of the Governments concerned. The Museum continued to be consulted by public departments requiring expert assistance in dealing with various problems.

In relation to economic matters specimens were named for a great number of enquirers and in many instances advice was given. Research students were given access to the collections and assisted in their investigations in all Departments throughout the year.

Among the more interesting of the questions upon which advice was given from the Department of Zoology during the year were problems connected with the fur trade, the infestation of buildings

and stored products by mites, and occurrences of parasitic worms in man and domestic and other animals. In the Entomological Department work was done in relation to insects causing or transmitting disease, pests of stored-products, wood-boring insects, and farm and garden pests.

*Acquisitions.*

The number of acquisitions in the several Departments during the year, apart from specimens received too late for incorporation and from books, was as follows :—

Department.	Purchases.	Donations, Exchanges, etc.	Total.
Zoology ... ...	993	29,116	30,109
Entomology ... ...	4,310	90,599	94,909
Geology ... ...	25,870	7,670	33,540
Mineralogy ... ...	1,488	2,957	4,445
Botany ... ...	9,222	11,709	20,931
	41,883	142,051	183,934

The number of separate presents received during the year was 2,838, among the more interesting of them being :—

From Mr. G. M. Mathews : his "The Birds of Australia," comprising 14 volumes and including 600 coloured plates.

From Mr. J. Spedan Lewis : 59 mammals from Dutch New Guinea.

From Sir John Mullens : the skin and skull of an Egyptian jackal.

From Mrs. C. M. L. Holmes : the skull of a fine African buffalo.

From the proprietors of *The Times* : eleven enlargements of photographs of East African big game.

From Dr. G. A. Boulenger, F.R.S. : a collection of 1,306 specimens of European reptiles and batrachians, and about 160 books and pamphlets formerly the property of Dr. J. de Bedriaga.

From the Governor of Uganda and Capt. C. R. S. Pitman : five skins and skulls and two skeletons of the Nkosi Situtunga, a rare marsh antelope from the islands of Lake Victoria.

From W. C. D. Soar : 576 microscopical preparations of British water-mites.

From the officers of the Royal Artillery, Port Louis, Mauritius : the stuffed type specimen of *Testudo sumeirei* (Marion's Tortoise), a specimen of great historical interest.

From Mrs. A. E. Wileman : her late husband's valuable collection of Lepidoptera, including 756 types.

From Mr. J. J. Joicey : a collection of between 5,000 and 6,000 butterflies from South and Central America.

From Mrs. M. E. Eaton : her late husband's collection of over 1,800 moth-flies and about 200 microscope slides.

From Prof. A. C. Seward, F.R.S. : a valuable collection of galls and gall-makers from various localities in Great Britain.

From Mrs. I. Geffcken: 1,914 coloured drawings of North American Lepidoptera made by her father-in-law, the late Mr. W. Geffcken.

From Mr. F. N. Ashcroft, 1,020 Swiss minerals, in addition to 1,178 specimens presented from time to time since 1921; also the whole of the material obtained by him in the excursions of the International Geological Congress in South Africa, 1929.

The late Mr. Wynne E. Baxter's valuable collection of diatoms, comprising about 12,500 slides, was received by bequest.

Two mounted mammals and two mounted heads were presented to the Museum during the year under the terms of the Rowland Ward Bequest.

The residue of the estate of the late Mr. Oldfield Thomas, F.R.S., after the payment of legacies, was bequeathed to the Trustees of the Godman Exploration Fund, who were directed to apply the income therefrom for the benefit and increase of any of the Museum collections.

Important purchases included a collection of 330 mammals from Bolivia; 136 and 107 birds from Ecuador; a rare woodpecker from Brazil; a rare squid; 812 specimens including 60 type-specimens from the Edwards Collection of Homoptera; a skeleton of *Moropus*, a horse-like fossil mammal; the skeleton of a fossil rhinoceros (*Diceratherium cooki*); 500 cretaceous fossils from the collection of the late Mr J. R. Farmery; a slice of the Weekeroo meteorite; a block of Lazulite from South-West Africa; 670 specimens and thin sections of rocks from the Thüringer Wald; Mr. A. Bennett's herbarium of British Pondweeds, and 3,300 specimens of British mosses and hepaticas.

#### *Collecting Expeditions.*

The work of the East Africa Expedition was continued largely owing to the grant of a sum of £1,000 towards the expense by the Government of Tanganyika Territory, and Mr. Migeod made progress on the Tendaguru site. He returned to England in December, but is resuming operations in 1930 with the aid of a further grant promised by the Tanganyika Government.

Dr. E. I. White took part in the Anglo-French-American expedition in Madagascar under the leadership of Monsieur J. Delacour, and made a large collection of fossil fishes, birds, lemurs, crocodiles and hippopotamuses.

Miss L. E. Cheesman undertook an expedition for the collection of insects in the New Hebrides.

#### *Publications.*

The following new works were published:—

Index Animalium, Sectio Secunda. By C. Davies Sherborn.

Parts XVIII, XIX, XX, and XXI.

“Terra Nova” Report, Zoology.

Vol. V, No. 4. Turbinolidae and Eupsamidae. By Prof. J. Stanley Gardiner.

Vol. VI, No. 4. Antarctic Sponges. By Maurice Burton.

Vol. VII, No. 3. Pelagic Polychaeta. By Dr. W. B. Benham.

Vol. VIII, No. 3. Copepoda. By G. P. Farran.

Insects of Samoa and other Terrestrial Arthropoda.

Part I (Orthoptera), Fasc. 2.

Part IV (Coleoptera), Fasc. 3 and 4.

Part VI (Diptera), Fasc. 3 and 4.

Part VIII (Terrestrial Arthropoda other than Insects), Fasc. 2.

Diptera of Patagonia and South Chile.

Part I (Crane Flies). By C. P. Alexander.

Part II, Fasc. 1 (Psychodidae). By A. L. Tonnoir.

Part II, Fasc. 2 (Blepharoceridae). By F. W. Edwards.

Part VI, Fasc. 1 (Sciadoceridae and Phoridae). By H. Schmidt.

Monograph of Recent Cephalopoda. Part I. By G. C. Robson.

Guide to Birds—Atlas of Plates. 2nd edition.

In addition to the above official publications, 230 reports and descriptive papers, based on the collections, by members of the staff and others, were published in scientific periodicals.

There were placed on sale during the year 24 new picture postcards of British Trees; and 10 illustrating the Life Histories of British Butterflies and Moths. The last-named pictures were also issued in booklet form.

The publication of the "Natural History Magazine" was continued.

C. TATE REGAN,  
*Director.*

BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY),  
1 April, 1930.

## BRITISH MUSEUM, W.C.1.

The Museum is open free to the public on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., but after 4 p.m. in January, February, November, December, and after 5 p.m. in March and October, some only of the galleries remain open, viz. :—

On MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, and FRIDAYS.	<i>Ground Floor.</i> Exhibitions of Manuscripts and Printed Books.
	<i>Upper Floor.</i> Prehistoric Room ; Coins and Medals ; Roman-British, Anglo-Saxon, Oriental, Religious, and Ethnographical Collections ; Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Egyptian Rooms ; Assyrian, Babylonian, Phoenician, Carthaginian, and Coptic Rooms ; Glass, China, and Mediaeval Collections.
On TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS, and SATURDAYS.	<i>Ground Floor.</i> Egyptian, Assyrian, Greek and Roman Sculpture.
	<i>Upper Floor.</i> Prehistoric, Terra-cotta, Gold Ornament, Greek and Roman Life, Bronze, and Vase Rooms ; First, Second, Third, and Fourth Egyptian Rooms ; Phoenician and Carthaginian Rooms ; Prints and Drawings Exhibition Gallery.

On Sunday Afternoons.—The whole of the Exhibition Galleries are open free from 2 to 6 p.m.

The Museum is closed on Good Friday and Christmas Day.

Public Lecture Tours of the Collections are conducted by Official Guide Lecturers at 12 noon and 3 p.m. daily, except on Sundays. Private parties are also conducted, under conditions to be learned on application verbally in the Entrance Hall, or by letter to the Guide Lecturer, British Museum, W.C.1.

Photographs of objects in the Museum can be supplied. Regulations and prices may be had on application to the Director.

Casts from sculptures in the Museum may be obtained from the Department of Casts, Victoria and Albert Museum, S.W.7.

## BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY), S.W.7.

The Museum is open free to the public on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

On Sundays visitors are admitted from 2.30 to 6 p.m. The Museum is closed on Good Friday and Christmas Day.

Public Lecture Tours of the Collections are conducted free of charge by the Official Guide Lecturer at 12 noon and 3 p.m. daily, except on Sundays. The Guide Lecturer's services are also available for private parties. Application should be made either verbally in the Entrance Hall, or by letter to the Director, Natural History Museum, S.W.7.

FOR OFFICIAL USE.



# BRITISH MUSEUM & BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY)

## Annual Report of the General Progress of the Museums for the year 1930

With a return of the Number of Persons  
admitted to the Museums, and a Statement  
of the Principal Objects added to the  
Collection

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1931

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PERSONS ADMITTED TO VIEW THE COLLECTIONS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM  
in each Year from 1925 to 1930, both Years included.

	1925		1926		1927		1928		1929		1930	
	Week-day.	Sun-day.										
		1,991	79,922	8,556	70,856	4,985	81,915	4,776	73,193	5,838	84,035	7,523
January	-	76,586	3,941	71,260	6,632	67,205	4,667	71,418	3,905	61,226	6,178	76,459
February	-	70,435	7,034	75,810	6,686	81,269	6,075	75,056	4,449	66,583	6,792	84,014
March	-	74,629	6,347	86,585	5,795	90,276	6,652	94,654	8,887	101,243	6,398	103,765
April	-	92,023	7,112	59,233	7,123	77,804	6,562	89,434	5,399	83,448	6,968	85,498
May	-	75,508	5,334	74,882	4,515	97,973	7,210	87,638	5,836	80,918	9,039	82,796
June	-	83,394	7,806	100,072	6,634	111,970	8,774	116,077	9,363	112,479	8,501	111,385
July	-	107,874	9,002	106,974	8,331	139,587	7,754	133,792	10,013	151,876	9,821	125,904
August	-	120,102	8,165	80,849	6,124	101,683	7,714	97,570	10,404	99,607	8,813	94,817
September	-	96,303	6,823	85,364	8,038	92,311	8,247	103,543	8,870	103,510	8,917	93,578
October	-	95,356	6,039	75,136	4,194	80,287	4,283	77,385	7,212	86,639	7,773	78,776
November	-	73,267	3,067	66,559	2,150	69,215	1,207	68,081	5,940	77,192	8,766	76,515
December	-	71,047	73,261	962,646	74,778	1,080,436	74,130	1,096,563	85,054	1,097,954	93,804	1,097,542
Total Number of Persons admitted to view the General Collections		1,036,524	1,109,785	1,037,424	1,154,566	1,181,617		1,191,758		1,201,639		104,097

## NUMBER OF VISITS OF STUDENTS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS

	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930
Reading Room	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Newspaper Room and Hendon Repository	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Map Room	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Department of Manuscripts	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Department of Oriental Printed Books and MSS.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Print Room	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Egyptian and Assyrian Department	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greek and Roman Department	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Galleries of Sculpture	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
British and Mediaeval Department	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Department of Ceramics and Ethnography	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coin and Medal Room	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	220,312	224,119	223,227	238,535	276,890	272,352	285,538

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM

The total number of visitors to the Museum again showed a slight rise, the figures being 1,201,639 as against 1,191,758 in 1929 and 1,181,617 in 1928. This was entirely due to a rise in the number of Sunday visitors, 104,097 visitors being numbered on Sunday afternoons as against 93,804 in 1929, whereas the weekday numbers fell off by 412. The highest monthly record was again in August (136,687), although it was far behind the record for the same month in 1929 (161,697).

The total number of students who visited particular departments rose by 13,186 to the highest total yet recorded (285,538 as against 272,352 in 1929 and 276,890 in 1928). This increase was chiefly found in the Reading Room (225,660 against 214,375 in 1929 and 215,449 in 1928) and Manuscript Department (12,488 against 10,873 in 1929 and 10,665 in 1928). The number of artist-students visiting the Sculpture Galleries fell from 1,671 to 659, the lowest on record of recent years.

The number of volumes supplied to readers in the Reading Room (exclusive of those on the open shelves) was 1,537,569, an increase of 104,158 on the preceding year (1,433,411). The number of readers was 225,660, an average of 744 daily; in 1929 it was 214,375, an average of 707 daily. The average number of volumes called for by readers increased from 6.68 in 1929 to 6.81. The number of readers in the Newspaper Room was the highest on record, 18,920 as against 17,431 in 1929 and 17,784 in 1928; and the number of visitors to the Hendon Repository for the purpose of consulting newspapers showed an increase to 569 from 503 in 1929. 1,691 volumes were sent from Hendon to Bloomsbury. In the Department of MSS. 40,298 MSS. and 8,392 Charters and seals were issued for study, and Magna Charta was shown to 27,260 visitors.

The lectures of the Official Guide-Lecturers were attended by approximately 36,350 persons.

The figures indicating the use of the photographic studio and other machinery for reproductions continue to be very heavy. The books and MSS. issued for photography numbered 5,412 (as against 4,839 in 1929). Of the MSS. alone 22,549 photographs or photostats were taken. In the Departments of Prints and Drawings and Antiquities the figures were less than in the preceding year. In that of Coins and Medals 568 electrotypes and 3,782 casts were made, as against 756 and 3,825 in the previous year.

Of the temporary exhibitions in the galleries during the year the following may be mentioned: A special exhibition of Italian Illuminated MSS. (in connexion with the Italian Exhibition at Burlington House). A similar exhibition of English Illuminated MSS. (concurrently with the Exhibition of Mediaeval English Art at the Victoria and Albert Museum). The Luttrell Psalter and the Bedford Book of Hours were specially shown to many visitors. An exhibition of bindings of MSS. and Printed Books. Italian Drawings and Woodcuts

were shown in connexion with the exhibition at Burlington House. The entire Loan Collection of Prints was shown in the autumn at Leamington. An exhibition of Chinese paintings was shown from June to the end of the year. In the Department of Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities there were exhibitions of objects from the excavations at Ur by the British Museum and the University Museum of Pennsylvania ; from those by Dr. Campbell Thompson and Mr. Hutchinson at Nineveh ; and from those by Mr. Guy Brunton at Badari.

The total number of objects added to the collections in 1930 was 385,020, a decrease of 56,758 on the figures for the previous year, entirely accounted for by a decrease in periodicals and newspapers counterbalancing an increase in this item reported last year.

The figures for the several Departments were as follows :—

Printed Books :

Books and Pamphlets	...	...	...	36,140
Serials and Parts of Volumes	...	...	...	103,627
Maps and Atlases	...	...	...	1,056
Music	...	...	...	8,593
Newspapers (single numbers)	...	...	...	218,101
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	2,165
Manuscripts	...	...	...	731
Oriental Printed Books and MSS.	...	...	...	2,068
Prints and Drawings	...	...	...	2,920
Prints and Drawings (Oriental)	...	...	...	299
Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities	...	...	...	2,762
Greek and Roman Antiquities	...	...	...	67
British and Mediaeval Antiquities	...	...	...	1,032
Ceramics and Ethnography	...	...	...	2,236
Coins and Medals	...	...	...	3,223
				385,020

Of the two remarkable illuminated MSS., the Luttrell Psalter and the Book of Hours of John, Duke of Bedford, mentioned in last year's report, the former had already been secured before the end of the year. The Bedford Hours remained in suspense, but, at the last moment before the expiry of the term named by Mr. Pierpont Morgan, to whose unexampled munificence the opportunity of acquiring it was due, the necessary amount (£33,000) was raised. These two books, thanks chiefly to special grants from H.M. Government and the National Art-Collections Fund, but also to innumerable subscriptions ranging from £1,000 to 2s. 6d., are now the property of the nation. They put into the shade all other recent acquisitions, which are fully described and in the more important cases illustrated in the *British Museum Quarterly* (2s. a number). Some of these accessions may now be mentioned :—

*In the Department of Printed Books.*

Early printed books : Ovid, *Metamorphoses*, printed by Andreas Portilia, at Parma, 1480, apparently as part of an edition of the whole works of Ovid which was not completed ; Michael de Ungaria (Michael of Ongar ?), *Sermones Universales*, printed in N. France, about 1485 ; Nicolaus Spinellus, *Lectura super tribus libris codicis*, printed by Cristophorus de Canibus, Pavia, 1491 ; *Vocabularius utriusque juris*, printed by Jean de Vingh, Lyons, 1499. Among sixteenth century

English books, the first English edition of G. P. Valeriano's treatise *Pro Sacerdotum barbis*, London, 1533, of which only two other copies are known ; and the only copies known of Hugh Latimer, *The fyrste sermon*, 1549 ; Antony, Prior of Crato, *The Explanation of the True and Lawfull Right and Tytle of the most excellent Prince Anthoine*, Leyden, 1585 ; and Signor Padre, *Newes from Millaine*, London, 1630. The Department also acquired a perfect copy of the Sarum Hymnal printed at Antwerp by Christopher van Endhoven in 1528 ; and the only known impression from the original plates of Christopher Saxton's *Map of England and Wales*, 1583. Dr. Rosenbach presented two very rare XVI cent. tracts on the entry of James VI into Leith and Edinburgh, 1550, and on the "Taking of the Royall Galley of Naunts," 1591.

In the Department of MSS. may be noted the unique copy of Burchardus, *Apologia de Barbis* ; a fourteenth-century Book of Hours in Roll form ; a well-illuminated copy of the *Roman de la Rose*, bequeathed by Miss H. Clark Couper ; a Greek Evangelistarium from the library of John Ruskin ; a fine illuminated Slavonic Gospels, 15th-16th cent. ; a collection of letters from Thomas Knyvett of Ashwellthorpe, 1620-1644 ; a Goldsmith letter, presented by Miss C. Meade ; some 500 letters of the Grenville family for 1767-77 ; forty-nine letters of Lord Byron, presented by Col. John Murray ; and six letters of Jane Austen, presented by Capt. Ernest Leigh Austen.

The Department of Prints and Drawings purchased with the help of a large contribution by Mr. Campbell Dodgson a very important drawing by Dürer of a Slavonic peasant woman, dated 1505. A large number of modern drawings and prints were presented by the Contemporary Art Society. The Department also acquired some exceptionally rare woodcuts by Anshelm, Beham, Graf and Vogtherr ; and two unusual landscape drawings by Gainsborough. In the Sub-Department of Oriental Prints and Drawings the most important acquisition (made with the help of the National Art-Collections Fund) was a painting of "The Nymph of the River Lo," of the Sung period. A XVI cent. Persian miniature of three horses galloping may also be mentioned.

In the Department of Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities, mention must be made of gifts by Mr. and Mrs. Chester Beatty (eight Egyptian literary papyri) and Dr. Robert Mond (an important collection of faience objects of the Old Kingdom period) and of a bequest by Lady Maxwell of objects from the collection of General Sir John Maxwell. From the excavations at Ur came, among other objects, a gold dagger, a gold headband, four frontlets with gold, lapis and carnelian beads ; and Mr. Guy Brunton gave a large series of objects of the "Tasian" and "Badarian" periods from his excavations at Mostagedda and elsewhere.

The Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities acquired four Etruscan funeral urns ; a Roman military diploma of 122 A.D., and some fine Greek vases, including a fine red-figured loutrophoros of about 430 B.C. with mourners over the body of a young man.

Among the acquisitions of the Department of British and Mediaeval Antiquities were a Celtic gold torc and armlets of the IV cent. B.C. ; some Frankish jewellery (garnet cell-work), said to come from the Marne, of the VI cent. A.D. ; a gold finger-ring, of about the VII cent. A.D., from Syria or Egypt, set with a garnet intaglio, a lion and a

bull's head ; two jewelled gold discs with enamelled ornament, a pair of gold ear-rings, a necklace of glass and gold beads, and a large iron spear-head, all from Lombard graves ; and a late VII cent. Frankish jewelled cruciform ornament of iron with gold-foil covering, presented by Mr. C. R. Beard.

In the Department of Ceramics and Ethnography, the most important acquisition was a vase with two pricket candlesticks, of porcelain of the Wan Li period, bought with the help of the National Art-Collections Fund and friends of the Museum. Valuable gifts of Oriental ceramics were also received from Sir Percival David and Mr. Harvey Hadden. The Harland Bequest provided three interesting pieces of English pottery.

To the Ethnographical Collections were added objects (including a wooden corslet with totemic design) from the N.W. coast of America, collected by Kotzebue ; a Tibetan necromancer's apron, given by Sir Robert Greg ; a bronze breastplate from Lagos ; and four fine pieces of Gandhara sculpture given at the wish of the late Mr. Dighton Pollock by his widow ; and, presented by the Mexican Government, three limestone blocks with ancient Maya frescoes.

The Department of Coins and Medals acquired a fine silver stater of Aptera, signed by Pythodoros, of the 4th cent. B.C. ; an unpublished gold medallion of Constantius II ; thirty gold nobles from a treasure buried at Borth about 1425 ; the unique Tournai half-groat of Henry VIII ; and the unique gold mohur of Jahangir with the portrait of Akbar, presented by the National Art-Collections Fund with the help of Mr. Henry Van den Bergh.

The following publications have been issued in the course of the year :—

Corpus of Italian Medals of the Renaissance before Cellini, 2 vols.

Catalogue of Books printed in the XVth Century, Part VI.

Catalogue of the Montague Guest Collection of Badges, Tokens and Passes.

Catalogue of Sculpture in the Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities, Vol. I, Part II.

General Guide to the Egyptian Collections, new edition.

Corpus Vasorum, Part V.

Schools of Illumination, Part VI.

Facsimile of Magna Charta, Reprint.

Pamphlet on "The Babylonian Story of the Deluge and the Epic of Gilgamesh," new edition.

Summary Guide to the Exhibition Galleries, 14th edition.

Two large and 12 smaller colour reproductions from Italian and Oriental miniatures, frescoes, etc.

Ten sets of coloured and 6 sets of monochrome postcards of various subjects, Western and Oriental.

The British Museum Quarterly, Vol. IV, no. 4, and Vol. V, nos. 1-2.

G. F. HILL,

*Director and Principal Librarian.*

PERSONS ADMITTED TO VIEW THE COLLECTIONS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY),  
in each Year from 1925 to 1930, both years included.

BRITISH MUSEUM

	1925			1926			1927			1928			1929			1930		
	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	
January	-	-	-	-	31,778	3,903	34,172	8,394	31,818	6,451	33,461	8,032	36,210	5,402	34,873	6,687		
February	-	-	-	-	30,477	5,483	28,032	6,635	26,228	6,344	29,966	7,807	24,702	6,596	29,421	7,765		
March	-	-	-	-	31,364	7,805	30,439	7,588	35,725	6,215	31,090	6,039	28,817	9,199	31,118	9,200		
April	-	-	-	-	48,897	5,969	46,273	6,764	49,803	6,774	46,540	11,494	59,109	6,945	56,124	7,937		
May	-	-	-	-	30,476	6,223	29,648	6,204	32,034	6,650	39,478	6,303	37,591	7,342	28,853	7,478		
June	-	-	-	-	38,173	4,009	32,783	4,609	44,541	5,356	31,057	5,477	29,065	7,940	39,241	5,972		
July	-	-	-	-	40,379	4,840	37,015	4,807	44,344	7,054	36,808	5,088	38,979	5,915	32,731	6,848		
August	-	-	-	-	56,172	7,750	56,021	5,917	85,962	6,767	69,601	7,419	64,892	7,128	58,080	9,619		
September	-	-	-	-	36,173	6,792	37,432	6,918	42,483	8,763	37,507	8,951	30,403	7,880	33,377	8,196		
October	-	-	-	-	31,907	6,294	34,988	9,063	36,389	8,850	39,300	7,980	39,870	7,648	31,419	7,350		
November	-	-	-	-	29,728	7,050	31,779	7,214	33,527	6,250	34,624	7,763	32,600	8,083	25,604	9,912		
December	-	-	-	-	31,844	3,739	33,903	4,705	27,255	3,730	30,994	6,494	30,574	8,218	23,517	5,085		
Total	Number of Persons admitted to view the Natural History Collections (including students)	437,368	69,857	432,495	78,818	490,114	79,204	478,426	88,847	452,812	88,386	414,358	92,049					
		507,225	507,225	511,313	511,313	569,318	569,318	567,273	567,273	541,198	541,198	506,407	506,407					

NUMBER OF VISITS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF STUDY.

	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930
Zoology (including Art Students)	-	13,633	11,170	10,867	13,216	13,281
Entomology	-	5,332	4,892	4,607	4,943	5,156
Geology	-	2,638	2,491	2,393	2,167	1,724
Mineralogy	-	-	531	414	346	409
Botany	-	-	3,950	4,235	3,944	3,683
General Library	-	-	531	775	934	576
Total	-	26,615	23,564	23,450	25,559	23,981
						27,129

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY)

The total number of visitors to the Natural History Museum during 1930 was 506,407 as compared with 541,198 in 1929. The visitors on Sunday afternoons numbered 92,049 as against 88,386; and the total number of visitors attending the tours of the official Guide-Lecturer during the year was 14,468, being an increase of 1,496 on the figures for 1929.

Under the British Museum Act, which was passed at the end of July, 1930, and came into force on 1 January, 1931, the responsibility for the care and custody of the collections in the Natural History Museum was transferred from the Director and Principal Librarian to the Director of the Natural History Departments.

Following the recommendation of the Royal Commission on National Museums and Galleries, the Treasury agreed to the increase over a period of years of the scientific staff of the Museum by fifteen and of the subordinate staff by twenty-four.

### *Museum Building*

The New Spirit Building extension, erected for the Department of Entomology at the expense of the Empire Marketing Board, was completed during the year and formally opened on 5 December by the Archbishop of Canterbury. The collections of all orders of insects, except Diptera and Lepidoptera, were transferred to the new accommodation thus supplied. The congestion and lack of space which have seriously hampered the work of the Department for so many years are at an end. Provision has been made in the new building for experimental work on insect pests.

Considerable progress has been made with the erection of the New Whale Room, and it is anticipated that it will be finished by the autumn of 1931.

The additional storey of studies over the eastern half of the north colonnade was completed: one of these studies was allotted to the General Library, and the remainder to the Department of Geology.

Iron galleries were constructed in two of the basement rooms in the Department of Geology to provide more space for the storage of specimens, and a lift for the transport of large specimens was provided between the basement and the ground floor in that Department.

The installation of the lift given by the late Mr. M. R. Oldfield Thomas, F.R.S., was completed and was opened by Mr. G. Lansbury, First Commissioner of Works, on 6 June.

### *Exhibition Galleries*

The exhibited series of Chiroptera, Insectivora, rodents, lemurs, and New World monkeys were entirely re-arranged, many old specimens being eliminated and fresh material placed on exhibition. The fine pair of cow elephant tusks, recently received on loan from the Governor of Uganda, His Excellency Sir William Gowers, K.C.M.G., was placed on exhibition in the East Corridor. A further series of enlarged photographs of East African big game, taken by Colonel

Marcuswell Maxwell, and presented by the proprietors of *The Times*, were hung in the Lower Mammal Gallery and the Central Hall. A model of the giant squid, *Stenoteuthis caroli*, was placed on exhibition in the Shell Gallery. A new exhibit of Annelid worms was completed. Considerable progress was made with the re-arrangement of the Fish Gallery.

In the Geological Department one large and two small cases containing plesiosaurs were transferred from the Fossil Reptile to the Fossil Fish gallery as the first stage in a re-arrangement of the galleries. Several cases of fishes were moved into the Fossil Reptile gallery in pursuance of the same scheme. The exhibits of fossil man and of British graptolites were re-arranged.

In the Mineral Gallery the fine specimen of cupriferous melanerite from Cyprus presented by Mr. J. L. Bruce was mounted in a special air-tight case with mercury seal and set up in a window to be seen by transmitted light ; and a 299-lb. mass of meteoric iron from Gibeon, presented by the Administration of South West Africa, was mounted in the Pavilion.

A temporary exhibit of the historical specimens of cinchona in the Department of Botany was arranged in the Central Hall in connexion with the tercentenary of the discovery of quinine.

#### *Study Collections*

The usual work of labelling, registering, and incorporating specimens continued in all Departments. As in previous years, the Trustees were much indebted to the numerous workers who gave their services voluntarily, many of whom worked continuously throughout the year.

Research students were given access to the collections in all Departments and assisted in their investigations.

Progress was made with the re-arrangement of the collections of Primates and Carnivora, and the greater part of the collection of skins of Ungulates was inspected and re-arranged. Work on the Antarctic Polyzoa collected by the "Terra Nova," "Discovery," and "Quest" Expeditions was continued. Among the Mollusca, the Mitridae, Lucinidea, and African freshwater Lamellibranchia were studied. In the Department of Entomology, the transfer of the collections to the new building, and the consequent re-arrangement, involved much time and labour. In addition, the entire collection of the Hymenoptera was re-organized. In the Department of Geology, the Assistant Keeper in charge of fossil reptiles devoted a great part of the year to the examination and comparison of plesiosaur remains in this and other museums. In the Department of Minerals, an apparatus was designed and set up for measuring the vapour-pressure of zeolites. The X-ray method was further employed in other problems, such as that of distinguishing minerals (nepheline and felspar, analcime and leucite) in rock sections. Among plants from many parts of the world, Gossweiler's West African collection was the object of special study in the Botanical Department.

#### *Congresses, etc.*

Dr. G. F. Herbert Smith and Dr. W. T. Calman, F.R.S., attended the Annual Conference of the Museums Association at Cardiff in June, and Dr. Herbert Smith was present also as the representative of the Museum at the Annual Conference of the Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux at New College, Oxford, in September. Mr.

P. R. Lowe, O.B.E., represented the Museum at the Seventh International Ornithological Congress at Amsterdam from 1 to 7 June. Major E. E. Austen, D.S.O., visited the International Colonial and Maritime Exhibition, Antwerp, on behalf of the Department of Overseas Trade, to superintend the installation of models of disease-carrying insects. Mr. G. C. Robson and Mr. H. W. Parker were the delegates of the Museum to the Eleventh International Congress of Zoology at Padua in September, Mr. Robson being also one of the official representatives of His Majesty's Government. All members of the scientific staff of the Department of Botany attended the International Botanical Congress held at Cambridge in August. Dr. Anna B. Hastings represented the Museum at a general meeting of the British Waterworks Association held at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, on 20 November. Dr. Calman was president of the Zoological Section of the British Association which met at Bristol in September. The Director and several members of the scientific staff also attended the meeting.

#### *Advisory and Economic Activities*

Sir Sidney F. Harmer, K.B.E., F.R.S., continued during the year to represent the Museum on the Colonial Office Committee responsible for the investigations carried out by the "Discovery" Expedition; and facilities and accommodation were given throughout the year for the working out at the Museum of the "Discovery" collections by the scientific staff of the expedition. Mr. P. R. Lowe, O.B.E., continued to serve on the Advisory Committee appointed by the Home Secretary under the Wild Birds' Protection Acts.

Demonstrations were given to curators of provincial museums in connexion with the summer school organized by the Museums Association.

Much information continues to be received through the Foreign Office, the Colonial Office, and the Dominion Office, concerning the protection of African big game.

Among other economic questions upon which advice was given from the Department of Zoology were the protection and control of elephants in Africa; the control of the musk-rat; occurrences of parasitic worms in man and animals in Nyasaland, Morocco, Algiers, the Sudan, and East Africa; and the ravages of shipworm at Haifa and Rangoon. In the Entomological Department, work was done in relation to insects causing or transmitting disease, pests of stored products, boring insects, and farm and garden pests.

#### *Acquisitions*

The number of acquisitions in the several Departments during the year, apart from specimens received too late for incorporation and from books, was as follows:—

Department.	Purchases.	Donations, Exchanges, etc.	Total.
Zoology ... ...	2,521	37,588	40,109
Entomology ... ...	39,753	75,786	115,539
Geology ... ...	6,895	4,791	11,686
Mineralogy ... ...	338	3,134	3,472
Botany ... ...	11,641	138,087	149,728
Totals ...	61,148	259,386	320,534

The number of separate presents received during the year was 3,237, among the more interesting of them being :—

From H.R.H. The Duke of Gloucester, K.G. : the skin and skull of a male specimen of Menelik's Bushbuck from Abyssinia.

From Lt.-Col. J. L. F. Tweedie, D.S.O. : the skull of an exceptionally fine Giant Eland from the Bahr el Ghazal Province, Sudan.

From Mr. A. S. Vernay : a collection of South African big game animals comprising 54 skins with skulls of mammals.

From Mr. Gilbert Blaine : a very fine skin and skull of a male Bongo from West Africa.

From Captain C. R. S. Pitman : an elephant skeleton from Uganda.

From Colonel F. Wall, C.M.G. : a collection of about 1,040 skulls and skeletal preparations of snakes.

From the Government of Greenland : a male narwhal.

From His Highness the Maharao of Cutch : the skin and skull of an unusually pale specimen of Thomson's Gazelle from Kenya Colony.

From the Government of the Falkland Islands : the skull and lower jaw of a male sperm whale, and the skull and lower jaw of a southern right whale.

From Lord Rothschild, F.R.S. : a coloured cast of an electric eel which had died recently in the Aquarium at the Zoological Society's Gardens, London.

From Dr. Cyril Crossland : a collection of 200 corals from Tahiti.

From Mr. J. J. Joicey : 13,102 South American moths of the family Noctuidae, including 174 types.

From Dr. W. Cunnington : an Ichthyosaur skeleton from Street, Somerset.

From the Hon. the Administrator of South West Africa : a most valuable and finely marked mass of the Gibeon (South West Africa) meteoric iron, weighing 299 lb.

From His Majesty the Emperor of Japan : specimens of six species of Mycetozoa from Japan.

From Professor R. S. Adamson : a collection of about 6,000 British flowering plants.

From Paymaster Commander T. M. Salter, R.N. : 1,400 South African plants.

From Mrs. Pegler : the late Dr. Pegler's collection of 5,900 British and Swiss plants.

From Mr. R. Crawshay : 167 drawings of fungi of the genus *Russula*.

From Mrs. H. B. Morse : a collection of 145 water-colour paintings of North American wild flowers and 7 of fungi.

From Miss Jessie Lefroy : a number of seaweeds collected on the Antarctic expeditions of the "Erebus" and "Terror."

From Mr. Gerald Sturt : a diatom collection of about 1,650 slides, together with a catalogue of the collection.

From Sir George F. Hampson, Bart. : a large framed portrait of himself at the age of 70.

From Mr. B. H. Soulsby : a valuable copy of a catalogue of the natural history collections of King Adolf Fredrik of Sweden, drawn up by Linnaeus, and published at Stockholm in 1754.

From Professor Alfred Hetschko : an important collection of books on all branches of natural history.

Bequests were made by the late Mr. G. W. Young, of 200 fossils, 5 minerals, about 100 rocks, and a large number of molluscs ; by the late Mr. C. E. Salmon, of his herbarium, comprising at least 60,000 specimens ; and by the late Mr. F. V. Theobald, of his very valuable collection of 9,258 microscope slides of plant lice. Sir S. F. Harmer, K.B.E., F.R.S., announced his intention of bequeathing to the Museum his extensive collection of books and papers dealing with the Polyzoa.

Important purchases included a collection of 684 skeletons of birds and 347 of mammals formed by the late Mr. E. T. Newton, F.R.S. ; 11 skulls and horns of African antelopes, 3 gorilla skulls, and female and foetal skeletons of African elephants ; two mammoth tusks from Siberia ; a complete *Myxosaurus* ; about 6,000 fishes from Paraguay ; the late Dr. J. Waterston's collection of 2,220 microscope slides, and about 15,300 spirit specimens of Mallophaga and Anoplura ; a collection of fossils from Timor ; a complete mounted skeleton of the lower Pliocene rhinoceros *Teleoceras* ; an etched slice of the meteoric iron of Tocopilla ; and minerals and plants from various localities.

### *Collecting Expeditions.*

Mr. F. W. H. Migeod, accompanied by Mr. F. R. Parrington of Cambridge University, returned to East Africa in April to resume the work of the British Museum East Africa Expedition. They continued for some time the excavations at Tendaguru, and subsequently visited the fossil beds near Lake Nyasa, where dinosaur remains have been found. The expedition finally closed down at the end of the year. There has not yet been sufficient time to investigate fully the large quantity of specimens collected.

During the first half of the year a collecting expedition on behalf of the Museum was undertaken by Lord Howard de Walden in the Semliki Valley and the Ituri Forest, on the Uganda and Belgian Congo border.

Miss L. E. Cheesman's exploration of the insect fauna of the New Hebrides continued until the end of the year, when her work there came to an end.

The Museum shared with the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, the valuable series of specimens obtained by Mr. A. S. Vernay's expedition to previously little known areas in South Africa, especially in Bechuanaland.

*Publications.*

The following new works have been published :—

Index Animalium, Sectio Secunda. By C. Davies Sherborn.  
Parts XXI, XXII, and XXIII.

“Terra Nova” Report, Zoology.

- Vol. IV, No. 5. Birds. By P. R. Lowe and N. B. Kinnear.
- Vol. V, No. 5. Hydriida. By A. K. Totton, M.C.
- Vol. VII, No. 4. Chaetognatha. By S. T. Burfield.
- Vol. VIII, No. 4. Amphipoda. By Dr. K. H. Barnard.

Insects of Samoa and other Terrestrial Arthropoda.

- Part II, Fasc. 3.
- Part VI, Fasc. 5 and 6.
- Part IX, Fasc. 1.

Great Barrier Reef Expedition, 1928-29. Scientific Reports.

- Vol. I, Nos. 1, 2, and 3.
- Vol. III, No. 1.

Diptera of Patagonia and South Chile.

- Part II, Fasc. 3.
- Part V, Fasc. 1 and 2.

Report on the Geological Collections made during the voyage of the  
“Quest” on the Shackleton-Rowett Expedition, 1919-22.

Economic Series, No. 12. The Cockroach (Second Edition).

Picture Post Cards.

- Sets B 14 and B 15.—Horses and their Allies.
- Sets B 16 and B 17.—Carnivora.
- Sets E 55 and E 56.—Life Histories of British Butterflies and Moths.

In addition to the above official publications, 259 reports and descriptive papers, based on the collections, by members of the staff and others, were published in scientific periodicals.

The publication of the “Natural History Magazine” was continued.

C. TATE REGAN,

*Director*

## BRITISH MUSEUM, W.C.1.

The Museum is open free to the public on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., but after 4 p.m. in January, February, November, December, and after 5 p.m. in March and October, some only of the galleries remain open, viz. :—

On MONDAYS,  
WEDNESDAYS,  
and  
FRIDAYS.

On TUESDAYS,  
THURSDAYS,  
and  
SATURDAYS.

	<i>Ground Floor.</i>
	Exhibitions of Manuscripts and Printed Books.
	<i>Upper Floor.</i>
	Prehistoric Room ; Coins and Medals ; Roman-British, Anglo-Saxon, Oriental, Religious, and Ethnographical Collections ; Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Egyptian Rooms ; Assyrian, Babylonian, Phoenician, Carthaginian, and Coptic Rooms ; Glass, China, and Mediaeval Collections.
	<i>Ground Floor.</i>
	Egyptian, Assyrian, Greek and Roman Sculpture.
	<i>Upper Floor.</i>
	Prehistoric, Terra-cotta, Gold Ornament, Greek and Roman Life, Bronze, and Vase Rooms ; First, Second, Third, and Fourth Egyptian Rooms ; Phoenician and Carthaginian Rooms ; Prints and Drawings Exhibition Gallery.

On Sunday Afternoons.—The whole of the Exhibition Galleries are open free from 2 to 6 p.m.

The Museum is closed on Good Friday and Christmas Day.

Public Lecture Tours of the Collections are conducted by Official Guide Lecturers at 12 noon and 3 p.m. daily, except on Sundays. Private parties are also conducted, under conditions to be learned on application verbally in the Entrance Hall, or by letter to the Guide Lecturer, British Museum, W.C.1.

Photographs of objects in the Museum can be supplied and lantern slides lent. Regulations and prices, and in the case of slides lists, may be had on application to the Director.

Casts from sculptures in the Museum may be obtained from the Department of Casts, Victoria and Albert Museum, S.W.7.

## BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY), S.W.7.

The Museum is open free to the public on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Sundays from 2.30 to 6 p.m.

The Museum is closed on Good Friday and Christmas Day.

Public Lecture Tours of the Collections are conducted free of charge by the Official Guide Lecturer at 12 noon and 3 p.m. daily, except on Sundays. The Guide Lecturer's services are also available (free) for private parties. Application should be made either verbally in the Entrance Hall, or by letter to the Director, British Museum (Natural History), S.W.7.

[FOR OFFICIAL USE.]



# BRITISH MUSEUM & BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY)

## Annual Report of the General Progress of the Museums for the year 1931

With a return of the Number of Persons  
admitted to the Museums, and a Statement  
of the Principal Objects added to the  
Collection

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LONDON

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1932

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PERSONS ADMITTED TO VIEW THE COLLECTIONS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM  
in each Year from 1926 to 1931, both Years included.

	1926		1927		1928		1929		1930		1931		
	Week-day.	Sun-day.											
January	-	79,922	8,556	70,856	4,985	81,915	4,776	73,193	5,838	84,035	7,523	81,377	
February	-	71,260	6,632	67,205	4,667	71,418	3,905	61,226	6,178	76,459	8,939	66,140	
March	-	75,810	6,686	81,269	6,075	75,056	4,449	66,583	6,792	84,014	10,841	66,425	
April	-	86,585	5,795	90,276	6,652	94,654	8,887	101,243	6,398	103,765	8,776	90,469	
May	-	59,233	7,123	77,804	6,562	89,434	5,399	83,448	6,968	85,498	8,658	77,168	
June	-	74,882	4,515	97,973	7,210	87,638	5,836	80,918	9,039	82,796	7,649	75,182	
July	-	100,072	6,634	111,970	8,774	116,077	9,363	112,479	8,501	111,385	8,572	102,076	
August	-	106,974	8,331	139,587	7,754	133,792	10,013	151,876	9,821	125,904	10,783	135,999	
September	-	80,849	6,124	101,683	7,714	97,570	10,404	99,607	8,813	94,817	9,713	132,265	
October	-	85,364	8,038	92,311	8,247	103,543	8,870	103,510	8,917	93,578	8,064	122,490	
November	-	75,136	4,194	80,287	4,283	77,385	7,212	86,639	7,773	78,776	9,065	108,335	
December	-	66,559	2,150	69,215	1,207	68,081	5,940	77,192	8,766	76,515	5,514	91,876	
Total Number of Persons admitted to view the Gene- ral Collections		962,646	74,778	1,080,436	74,130	1,096,563	85,054	1,097,954	93,804	1,097,542	104,097	1,149,802	
		1,037,424		1,154,566		1,181,617		1,191,758		1,201,639		1,254,711	
												104,909	

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM

The total number of visitors to the Museum showed a considerable rise, the figures being 1,254,711 as against 1,201,639 in 1930 and 1,191,758 in 1929. The number of Sunday visitors remained practically stationary, the rise being due to the weekday visits. The figures for the first six months of the year showed a large falling-off, which was more than compensated by heavy increases in the later months, especially, as usual, in August.

The total number of students who visited particular departments was 284,885, slightly below the highest recorded previous figure for the years since the war, viz. 285,538 in 1930. Increases on last year were noticeable in the Reading Room and the Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities; the decline was chiefly accounted for by the Ethnographical Department.

The number of volumes supplied to readers in the Reading Room (exclusive of those on the open shelves) was 1,610,349, again an increase on the preceding year (by 72,780 on 1,537,569). The number of readers was 226,270, an average of 746 daily (2 more than in 1930), and the average number of books asked for increased again from 6.81 to 7.11. The number of readers in the Newspaper Room fell from 18,920 to 17,853, and the number of visitors to the Hendon Repository for the purpose of consulting newspapers was only 215, as against 569 in 1930. 1,816 volumes were sent from Hendon to Bloomsbury, as against 1,691 in 1930. In the Department of Manuscripts 37,724 Manuscripts and 3,669 Charters and Seals were issued for study, and the number of persons to whom Magna Charta was shown increased from 27,260 to 29,068.

The Lectures of the Official Guide-Lecturers were attended by approximately 30,167 persons.

There was a falling-off in the number of books and MSS. issued for photography, 4,427 as against 5,412 in 1930 and 4,839 in 1929. A total of 17,974 photographs or photostats of MSS. was taken. In the Department of Coins and Medals 480 electrotypes and 5,076 casts were made, as against 568 and 3,782 in 1930.

The output of the Photographic Studio is shown by the following figures (in which those mentioned in the preceding paragraph are included): negatives, 3,501; prints, 9,449; photostats, 22,020; lantern-slides, 1,122. 2,653 lantern-slides were issued on loan.

The sales of publications of the Trustees were: Catalogues, 8,200; Guide Books, 20,050; Postcards, monochrome and coloured, 553,750; Reproductions, 23,500. The proceeds of sales (gross, including the new edition of the General Catalogue of Printed Books) amounted to £12,093.

Of the temporary exhibitions held during the year the most important was in connexion with the Persian Exhibition at Burlington House, objects collected from seven different departments being combined in the Gallery of the Print Room (Oriental Section). The casts brought by Sir Cecil Harcourt-Smith from Persepolis in 1891 were also set up in the Assyrian Basement. Other exhibitions represented the collection of Indian Paintings and Drawings (in connexion with the Round Table

Conference); the results of the Brunton Expedition to Badari and of the Hyde-Campbell Thompson Expedition to Nineveh, Manuscripts from the Cotton Collection in connexion with the Tercentenary of Sir Robert Cotton; books, MSS. and maps relating to N. America; and books, etc., connected with Faraday.

The total number of objects added to the collections in 1931 was 397,825, an increase on 1930, but still below the total of 1929, which was 441,778.

The figures for the several Departments were as follows:—

Printed Books:

Books and Pamphlets	...	...	...	...	35,691
Serials and Parts of Volumes	...	...	...	...	109,659
Maps and Atlases	...	...	...	...	1,354
Music	...	...	...	...	9,248
Newspapers (single numbers)	...	...	...	...	217,790
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	2,817
Manuscripts	...	...	...	...	3,506
Oriental Printed Books and MSS.	...	...	...	...	2,062
Prints and Drawings	...	...	...	...	6,259
Prints and Drawings (Oriental)	...	...	...	...	198
Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities	...	...	...	...	2,956
Greek and Roman Antiquities	...	...	...	...	317
British and Medieval Antiquities	...	...	...	...	518
Ceramics and Ethnography	...	...	...	...	2,852
Cards and Medals	...	...	...	...	2,598
					397,825

The most important acquisition of the year was the upper part of a life-size statue in dolerite of a Sumerian governor, probably Gudea or his son Ur-Ningirsu, from a group found at Lagash. This remarkable work of Babylonian sculpture was acquired with the help of the National Art-Collections Fund, which made a substantial contribution and advanced the money necessary to complete the purchase.

Another Society, the Friends of the National Libraries, founded to do for the Libraries the same kind of work as the other Fund does for Art-Galleries, has made possible (by defraying the greater part of the cost) the acquisition of a very important series of papers from Bishop Percy's Collection, including about one-fourth of the existing autograph material connected with Oliver Goldsmith (private letters, drafts of literary works, etc.), as well as the copy of Speght's Chaucer 1598 which contains Gabriel Harvey's Marginalia, notably the reference to Shakespeare's Venus and Adonis, Lucrece, and Hamlet (the earliest known notice of the last).

The *British Museum Quarterly*, now in its sixth year (2s. 6d. a number) contains accounts and illustrations of the more important accessions, making it unnecessary to mention more than a selection here.

Printed Books and Maps.

Among early printed books: Joannes de Turrecremata, *Explanatio in Psalterium*, Cracow, about 1474-6; Valescus de Taranta, *Philonium*, printed by Petrus Posa, Barcelona, 1484, the only known copy of the

first edition ; a Psalter combining the Sarum and York uses, Paris, 1522 ; R. Crowley's *Fable of Philargyrie*, 1551 (presented by the Keeper of Printed Books) ; Mercator's Atlas, 1595 ; and Henry Crosse's *Vertues Commonwealth*, 1603.

#### *Manuscripts.*

Besides the Goldsmith and Harvey MSS. already mentioned, a late twelfth century vellum roll with miniatures of the life of St. John Baptist, probably the only surviving fragment of the *Hortus Deliciarum* of Herrad of Landsberg, which was burnt at Strasburg in 1870 ; a thirteenth century Breviary of the use of Lyons ; a thirteenth century illustrated English Apocalypse, assigned to Canterbury, which belonged to the Abbey of Abingdon, and was lent to Queen Joan of Scotland in 1362 ; a series of Charters and other documents relating to the Brockman family (presented by the family) ; a series of manorial documents from Conington Castle (presented by Mr. J. Norman Heathcote) ; a sixteenth century Italian song-book containing 58 "frottola" ; two letters of John Wesley (presented by Professor A. F. Pollard) ; and two volumes of Thomas Warton's correspondence (presented by Lieutenant Colonel John Murray, D.S.O.).

The Department of *Oriental Printed Books and MSS.* was presented by Mr. R. S. Greenshields with a number of MSS., including a finely-written copy of the poems of the Persian poet Attar containing a remarkable colophon dated 1458. H.M. the King of Siam presented a complete set (45 vols.) of the Pali canonical scriptures of Southern Buddhism.

#### *Prints and Drawings.*

Liotard's engraved portrait of himself, a proof before letters ; two very large French woodcuts, about 1500, of the *Crucifixion* and the *Death of the Virgin*, the latter unique (acquired with the help of a number of subscribers and the National Art-Collections Fund) ; a woodcut of the Bride of the Song of Songs ascribed to Dürer (presented by Mr. Campbell Dodgson) ; a number of prints and drawings bequeathed by Mr. H. van Velten ; a complete collection of the works of Sir Frank Short ; a rare primitive Italian engraving of the *Crucifixion*.

#### *The Sub-Department of Oriental Prints and Drawings.*

Mr. R. N. Shaw presented another instalment of 19 fine Japanese colour prints ; a fine painting of a tiger by Ganku (1749-1838), and an early sixteenth century scroll-painting of a Buddhist legend, of the Tosa School, were purchased.

In the Department of *Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities* (in addition to the Sumerian statue already mentioned), additions were made to the series of Luristan bronzes ; Sir Herbert Thompson and Dr. Robert Mond presented a demotic contract-papyrus from Philadelphia.

The most important acquisition of the Département of *Greek and Roman Antiquities* was a small marble head of Pan of the late fifth century B.C., of Attic work.

A fine gold Persian statuette of a rider (without horse) belonging to the Oxus Treasure, was added to that collection.

The Department of *Ceramics and Ethnography* acquired a thirteenth-fourteenth century pottery bowl of uncertain Near-Eastern origin, with the design of a mounted archer ; a fine Wan-Li fish bowl and other objects bequeathed by Mr. Harvey Hadden.

In the ethnographic section, mention must be made of a fine Maya vase in calcite presented by Mrs. Madeley and Mr. J. W. Madeley ; the torso of a Buddha in sandstone, early Khmer ; and a fine Peruvian vase of the Nasca type, presented by Mr. H. Van den Bergh through the National Art-Collections Fund.

Much valuable work has been carried out at the Research Laboratory since its transfer from the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research to the Trustees. Among the objects subject to treatment were : a pencil portrait of Artemisia Gentileschi by Van Dyck ; a fine MS. from Durham Cathedral, attacked and blackened by salt, was freed and much improved ; a pastel portrait belonging to H.M. the Queen, suffering from mildew and mould, was cured ; a badly corroded bracelet from Egypt, apparently of copper, was cleaned and found to consist of silver, with inlays of shell and garnet ; what appeared to be a shapeless fragment of corroded bronze from Nubia proved to be a buckle decorated with cloisons of pale gold ; a bronze statuette from Ur which seemed too soft and crumbly for treatment came out in all its detail ; and gold and silver Iron Age brooches with inlays in garnet so delicate that they could hardly be touched without displacing them, were cleaned and fixed. Analysis of porcelains has made it possible to attribute works to the potteries which made them. Work has been done on varnishes for pictures, metallic objects, etc. The resources of the laboratory have been placed at the disposal of several other Government Departments.

The following publications have been issued in the course of the year :  
 General Catalogue of Printed Books, new edition, Vols. I and II.  
 Codex Alexandrinus, Old Testament, Part II.  
 Corpus Vasorum, Part VI.  
 Catalogue of Sculpture, Vol. I, Part II.  
 Cuneiform Texts from Babylonian Tablets, Part XLI.  
 Catalogue of Dutch Drawings, Vol. IV.  
 Supplementary Catalogue of Tamil Books.  
 Early Maps of Drake's Voyage, 2nd edition.  
 The Prism of Esar-haddon and Ashurbanipal.  
 Sturge Collection of Flints, Vol. I.  
 Catalogue of Roman Imperial Coins, Vol. II.  
 Catalogue of Paintings from Tun-Huang.  
 Guide to the Tercentenary Exhibition of Cotton MSS.  
 Babylonian Legends of the Creation, new edition.  
 British Museum Quarterly, Vol. V, nos. 3, 4, and Index to first five volumes ; Vol. VI, nos. 1-3.  
 Reproductions in colour of MSS., paintings, etc. ; ten large, eight small, and eight sets of postcards.

G. F. HILL,

*Director and Principal Librarian.*

PERSONS ADMITTED TO VIEW THE COLLECTIONS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY),  
in each Year from 1926 to 1931, both years included.

	1926		1927		1928		1929		1930		1931	
	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.
January	-	-	-	-	34,172	8,394	31,818	6,451	33,461	8,032	36,210	5,492
February	-	-	-	-	28,012	6,635	26,228	6,344	29,966	7,807	26,702	6,596
March	-	-	-	-	30,430	7,588	35,725	6,215	31,039	28,817	9,199	31,118
April	-	-	-	-	46,273	6,764	49,808	6,774	64,540	11,494	59,109	6,945
May	-	-	-	-	29,618	6,204	32,034	6,650	39,478	6,303	37,591	7,342
June	-	-	-	-	32,733	4,609	44,541	3,356	31,057	5,477	29,065	7,940
July	-	-	-	-	37,015	4,807	44,344	7,054	36,808	5,088	38,979	5,915
August	-	-	-	-	56,021	5,917	85,962	6,767	69,601	7,419	64,892	7,128
September	-	-	-	-	37,432	6,918	42,483	8,763	37,507	8,951	30,403	7,880
October	-	-	-	-	34,918	9,063	36,389	8,850	39,300	7,980	39,870	7,648
November	-	-	-	-	31,779	7,214	33,527	6,250	34,624	7,763	32,600	8,083
December	-	-	-	-	33,903	4,705	27,255	3,730	30,994	6,494	30,574	8,218
Total Number of Persons admitted to view the Natural History Collections (including students)	432,495	78,818	490,114	79,204	478,426	88,847	452,812	88,386	414,358	92,049	437,553	99,617
	<u>511,313</u>	<u>569,318</u>	<u>569,273</u>	<u>569,273</u>	<u>541,198</u>	<u>541,198</u>	<u>506,407</u>	<u>506,407</u>	<u>537,170</u>			

NUMBER OF VISITS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF STUDY.

	1926		1927		1928		1929		1930		1931	
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Zoology (including Art Students)	-	-	11,170	-	10,867	-	13,216	-	13,281	-	14,661	-
Entomology	-	-	4,892	-	4,607	-	4,943	-	4,308	-	5,153	-
Geology	-	-	2,491	-	2,393	-	2,167	*	1,724	-	1,817	-
Mineralogy	-	-	531	-	414	-	346	-	409	-	367	-
Botany	-	-	3,705	-	4,235	-	3,944	-	3,683	-	4,595	-
General Library	-	-	775	-	934	-	943	-	576	-	533	-
Total	23,564	-	23,450	-	25,559	-	23,981	-	27,129	-	24,735	-

GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM  
(NATURAL HISTORY)

The celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the Natural History Museum was held on 29 and 30 September. The delegates were welcomed in the Reptile Gallery on the afternoon of 29 September, and a reception was given by His Majesty's Government at the Museum the same evening, the guests being received by the Prime Minister and Miss Ishbel MacDonald. On 30 September, visits were paid to the Tower of London and Lambeth Palace, and the delegates were invited to the reception given at the Guildhall to the members of the British Association by the Lord Mayor and Corporation of the City of London.

The total number of visitors to the Natural History Museum during 1931 was 537,170 as compared with 506,407 in 1930. The visitors on Sunday afternoons numbered 99,617 as against 92,049 last year. The total number of visitors attending the tours of the Official Guide-Lecturer during 1931 was 12,533, being a decrease of 1,935 on the figure for 1930.

On 1 April the Director became the Accounting Officer for the separate Vote for the British Museum (Natural History) which came into effect on that date.

In view of the need for stringent economy, six Assistant Keeperships out of eight new scientific posts which had been approved by the Treasury for 1931 were left unfilled.

*Exhibition Galleries.*

In conjunction with a rearrangement of the Geological exhibition galleries the reproductions of skeletons of the extinct reptiles *Diplodocus*, *Triceratops*, and *Iguanodon* were removed from the recent Reptile Gallery to the Fossil Reptile Gallery.

The structural work on the new Whale Gallery was finished by the end of September, and the internal fitting is now almost complete. Funds not being at present available for the somewhat expensive work of installing whale models and skeletons, a temporary exhibition of British Empire big game is being prepared in the new gallery.

Several additions were made to the Upper Mammal Gallery. A mounted specimen of the gerenuk, and the specimen of the Congo race of Lord Derby's eland, presented by Sir Charles Markham, were placed in a special case outside the Lower Mammal Gallery. The New World monkeys were rearranged. Continued progress was made with the rearrangement of the Bird Gallery, especially among the British series. The reorganization of the Fish Gallery was continued, and the cases illustrating the classification of fishes, food-fishes, and fishery investigations were completed.

In the Entomological Department the rearrangement of the Insect Gallery was continued ; and a new exhibit illustrating the importance of insects to man was placed in the Central Hall.

A new exhibit to illustrate the early history of palaeontology was arranged in the Department of Geology, and a series to illustrate the evolution of the horse, of Gault ammonites, and of Chalk sea-urchins, was placed in a wall-case in the Fossil Mammal Gallery.

A new type of wall-case with glass shelves and flood lighting was fitted in the Mineralogical Gallery. In this was placed a selection of the larger and more attractive specimens from the collection. A set of photographs of limestone caverns in New Mexico was mounted and fixed to the wall in the Gallery ; and the specimens of breccias, conglomerates, and sandstones were rearranged in the window-cases.

A temporary exhibit of woad was put up in the Department of Botany. The collection of plants from Patagonia, lent by His Majesty the King, was placed on exhibition. An exhibit was arranged in the Central Hall in connexion with the centenary of the discovery of the nucleus of the cell by Robert Brown.

#### *Study Collections.*

The usual work of naming, labelling, registering, and incorporating accessions continued in all Departments. As in previous years, the Trustees are much indebted to numerous workers who gave their services voluntarily, many of whom worked continuously throughout the year. Research workers were given access to the collections in all Departments and were assisted in their investigations.

Part of the collection of large African ungulates was transferred to new cabinets and rearranged. Several large collections of birds were determined and incorporated, and the rearrangement of the birds of prey was completed. Continued progress was made with the rearrangement of the bird skeletons. In the reptile section, the frogs of the family Brevicipitidae, and the geckos of the oriental region, among many minor groups, were revised and rearranged. Among the fishes considerable progress was made with the rearrangement of the spirit collection, and work on a catalogue of flatfishes was further advanced. Work was continued on the Godwin-Austen, Blanford, and Benson collections of Mollusca, and the Cephalopoda obtained by the "Arcturus" were studied.

In the Department of Entomology, work upon all orders of insects consisted largely in the incorporation of important collections, after identification either by members of the staff concerned, or by specialists outside the Museum. Such incorporations included Empididae from New Zealand, among the Diptera ; the Lyle collection and part of the Salt collection among the Hymenoptera ; and the whole or part of the Clark, Andrewes, and Cameron collections of Coleoptera. Steady progress was made in indexing the collections belonging to a number of orders, and during the early part of the year much time was necessarily occupied in transferring the entire collections of Lepidoptera, with the exception of the Microlepidoptera, to larger rooms rendered vacant by the removal of other orders of insects to the new building provided by the Empire Marketing Board.

In the Department of Geology work was done on *Hyracotherium* and other mammals, and the skeleton of *Teleoceras* was mounted and exhibited. Progress was made with the examination of Liassic Plesiosaurus and Nigerian reptiles. The Lower Old Red Sandstone fishes occupied much time in curating and research. The British Eocene and Oligocene Gastropoda were entirely revised and re-labelled, and the whole of the Jurassic general collections were rearranged. Most of the work on the study collections of Invertebrate fossils was done on the

Decapod Crustacea, Cretaceous cirripedes, Cretaceous echinoderms, Jurassic brachiopods, and Palaeozoic corals.

In the Department of Minerals a detailed study was made of various meteorites ; work was done on rocks from Brittany and from Fernando Noronha, and various zeolites and minerals from South-West Africa and the Transvaal were studied by X-ray methods. Thirty-six quantitative and thirty qualitative analyses were made in the chemical laboratory, and new methods were devised for the analysis of meteorites.

In the Department of Botany determination and investigation of plants was continued as in previous years.

#### *Congresses, etc.*

The Centenary Meeting of the British Association was held in London from 23 to 30 September. Section D (Zoology) was given accommodation in the Museum, the Reptile Gallery being used as a lecture-room and the new Whale Gallery as an annexe.

Mr. G. C. Robson and Mr. J. R. Norman attended, as delegates of the Museum, the joint meeting of the Challenger Society and of representatives of Marine Laboratories held at Plymouth on 12 and 13 May. Dr. G. F. Herbert Smith, Dr. W. T. Calman, F.R.S., and Dr. W. E. Swinton represented the Museum at the Annual Conference of the Museums Association which was held at Plymouth from 6 to 10 July. Dr. Herbert Smith also attended the International Congress for the Protection of Nature, held in Paris from 30 June to 4 July, in the dual capacity of delegate of the Museum and official representative of His Majesty's Government, and he represented the Museum at the Annual Conference of the Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, in September. Mr. A. C. Townsend was the delegate of the Museum at the Tenth Conference of the International Institute of Bibliography at the Hague in August. Mr. A. W. McKenny Hughes attended the *Deuxième Congrès International de Pathologie Comparée*, held in Paris in October.

#### *Advisory and Economic Activities.*

In connexion with the training course for curators held in London in October under the auspices of the Museums Association, lectures and demonstrations were given by a number of members of the Museum staff.

In the Department of Zoology numerous enquiries relating to mites, ticks, and parasitic worms were answered, and specimens were named. Advice was also given on the musk-rat question, whaling and sealing matters, and the corrosion of submarine pipes by Polyzoa and Mollusca. The Department of Entomology continued to co-operate with the Imperial Institute of Entomology. Apart from the assistance given to the Institute, 938 economic enquiries were dealt with by correspondence and 561 by interviews. Pests of grain, cereal products, and fruit, and insects affecting tobacco, received much attention. The timber of Gray's Inn Hall, and of the Great Hall of University College, received detailed examination. In the Department of Botany a large number of queries on plant diseases, destruction of stored products, human fungal diseases, and water pollution were dealt with.

*Acquisitions*

The number of acquisitions in the several Departments during the year, apart from specimens received too late for incorporation and from books, was as follows :—

Department.	Purchases.	Donations, Exchanges, etc.	Total.
Zoology ... ...	2,143	25,528	27,671
Entomology ... ...	75,242	109,753	184,995
Geology ... ...	609	11,851	12,460
Mineralogy ... ...	158	1,743	1,901
Botany ... ...	5,399	47,440	52,839
<b>Totals ...</b>	<b>83,551</b>	<b>196,315</b>	<b>279,866</b>

The number of separate presents received during the year was 2,825, among the more interesting of them being :—

From H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester, K.G.: the skull and head skin of an Abyssinian duikerbok (*Sylvicapra grimmii abyssinica*) and the skin and skull of a second specimen of Menelik's bushbuck from Abyssinia.

From H.H. the Nawab Sahib of Junagadh: perfect skins and complete skeletons of adult male and female Indian lions from the Gir Forest.

From the Government of Burma: the skin and skeleton of a full-grown male *Rhinoceros sumatrensis*, the skeleton being complete except for the horns.

From Lord Rothschild, F.R.S.: a cast of a large swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*).

From Major F. Lort-Philips: a large collection of Somaliland, Asiatic, and North American ungulates and carnivores, and a large collection of British Lepidoptera.

From the Executors and residuary legatee of the late Mr. C. St. George R. Littledale: 94 specimens of antlers, horns, and heads, including the record heads of the Newfoundland caribou, the Western tur, and the Siberian argali.

From Mr. Bertram Thomas: the collections made during his recent explorations in Southern Arabia, comprising 26 mammals, 82 reptiles and amphibians, a few molluscs, a number of arachnids, and 500 insects.

From Mr. Marius Maxwell: a large album of photographs taken by him in the Kivu district of Central Africa, which are of special interest as illustrating the haunts of the eastern gorilla.

From the Zoological Society of New York: a specimen of the extinct tortoise of Charles Island, Galapagos.

From Mr. J. C. Dollman: 35 mounted skulls of Central African ungulates shot by the late Mr. Hereward Dollman, and a collection of birds' eggs.

From Dr. R. Tracy Jackson: a collection of 300 named and specially selected echinoids, mostly from the West Indies.

From Mr. N. L. Falcon : four specimens of the primitive ichthysaur *Mixosaurus*, collected by the donor during an expedition to Spitsbergen in 1927.

From the Proprietors of "The Times" : twelve enlargements of photographs of the eastern gorilla taken by Mr. Marcuswell Maxwell.

From the Imperial Institute of Entomology : a card-catalogue of the horse flies (Tabanidae), consisting of 3,000 cards and containing references to all species described.

From the Executors of the late Mr. R. T. Francis : a collection of about 13,000 insects, chiefly Coleoptera and Lepidoptera.

From the Trustees of the Vernay-Archbold Expedition to Madagascar (1929-30) : 190 Pleistocene mammals, 235 Pleistocene birds, 6 Pleistocene reptiles, and 300 Triassic fishes, collected by Dr. E. I. White in the course of the expedition.

From Dr. Herbert Basedow, F.G.S. : a collection of minerals from Central Australia, including a piece of a meteorite of the rare pallasite type.

From H.I.M. The Emperor of Japan : five specimens of mycetozoa.

From Mr. John Gossweiler : a unique set of 446 Angolan plants.

From the Misses M. I. and A. W. Irving : 425 negatives of coloured photographs of flowers, fungi, etc., taken by the late Mr. Henry Irving.

From Miss A. Lorrain Smith : 646 drawings of fungi, mycetozoa, and lichens made by John Templeton (1766-1825), and three volumes containing 419 original drawings of lichens by George Massee.

From the late Mr. R. Sherring (bequest) : a fern herbarium, comprising about 3,000 specimens, including over 1,500 from Jamaica.

From the Tunbridge Wells Municipal Museum : 5,613 foreign and British mosses, which had formed the herbarium of the late Sir James Stirling.

From Miss M. Brown : the Henry Brown Herbarium (1824-92), containing 230 localized plants.

From the Council of the Linnean Society of London : a very rare book by Carl Lucien Bonaparte, entitled "Saggio di una Distribuzione Metodica degli Animali Vertebrati."

From the Friends of the National Libraries (with the co-operation of Mr. B. H. Soulsby) : eleven volumes of rare Linneana.

From the Royal University Library, Upsala : copies of nine rectorial addresses delivered by Linnaeus before the Court of Sweden and the University of Upsala from 1749 to 1772, and a copy, in the original binding, of "Carl von Linne's Minnesfest i Upsala den 12 October 1829," in five parts.

From Miss Ursula Cust : three large folio volumes of original drawings, 207 in all, of fishes, flowers and fruits, the work of the Hon. Lady Cust, the donor's grandmother, done during a West Indian tour in 1839, and a visit to Madeira in 1866.

From Miss M. W. Pedder : a small portrait of the late J. A. Harvie-Brown, the well-known Scottish naturalist, painted by her father, the late John Pedder, R.I.

From Dr. Casey A. Wood : a copy of "A Natural History of the Ducks," by Dr. J. C. Phillips, in four volumes.

Dr. W. Rushton Parker has generously undertaken to meet the cost of mounting a skeleton of *Moropus* for the Fossil Mammal Gallery.

His Majesty the King has graciously placed on loan in the Department of Botany collections of plants from the Argentine-Chile border, and from Nepal.

Important purchases included a mounted pygmy hippopotamus and a mounted gerenuk; 233 birds from Sierra Leone and 385 from the Tian Shan mountains; a collection of North American Hymenoptera, comprising 11,600 bees and 850 wasps; a collection of 199 Triassic fishes, containing 18 new species, from near Sydney, New South Wales; two skeletons (almost complete) of the primitive plesiosaur *Pachypleurosaurus* from the Alpine Trias; a complete meteoric stone weighing 300 grams from Kansas and an etched slice of meteoric iron from Virginia; a fine specimen of haematite from Elba; and plants from Asia Minor, Formosa, Brazil, and Chile.

#### *Collecting Expeditions.*

Captain A. K. Totton, M.C., returned to the Museum on 1 April on the completion of a cruise with the Atlantic Fleet in the West Indies. The collections made amply justified the experiment of attaching a Museum officer to the Fleet, and it is hoped that the cruise will form a precedent for similar co-operation with the Navy in the future.

The Trustees accepted a generous offer from Rear-Admiral H. Lynes, C.B., C.M.G., to provide the sum of £1,000 for an ornithological collecting expedition to Portuguese East Africa, and Mr. J. Vincent, the collector appointed to carry out the exploration, left England in October.

Mr. G. Tandy's visit to the Marine Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, at Dry Tortugas, Florida, resulted in the acquisition of about 1,000 mounted specimens of marine algae and a large quantity of zoological material.

Mr. A. T. Hopwood returned from his expedition to East Africa on 16 January (1932), having made valuable collections of fossils in the Miocene beds of Koru (Kenya Colony) and the Lower Pleistocene of Olduvai (Tanganyika Territory) as well as obtaining an extensive series of recent mammals.

As the result of a collecting tour in Northern Rhodesia by Captain C. R. S. Pitman, the Museum received more than 260 mammals and a large number of birds, reptiles and fishes.

Mr. W. N. Edwards left for India on 24 December to join Professor B. Sanhi in a geological (fossil plant) expedition to the Rajmahal Hills and the Raniganj coalfield.

*Publications.*

The following new works were published during the year :—

Index Animalium, Sectio Secunda. By Dr. C. Davies Sherborn.  
Parts XXIV, XXV, XXVI, and XXVII.

Great Barrier Reef Report.

Vol. I, Nos. 4-7.

Vol. II, Nos. 1 and 2.

Vol. III, Nos. 2-4.

Vol. IV, Nos. 1-6.

Insects of Samoa and other Samoan Terrestrial Arthropoda.

Part IV, Fascicle 5.

Part VI, Fascicle 7.

Diptera of Patagonia and South Chile.

Part II, Fascicles 4 and 5.

Part VI, Fascicle 2.

Catalogue of Pontian Carnivora. By Dr. G. E. Pilgrim.

Vertebrate Faunas of the English Eocene. By Dr. E. I. White.

Handbook of British Seaweeds. By Dr. L. Newton.

Economic Series, No. 4. Mosquitoes and their Relation to Disease.  
(Fourth Edition.)

Economic Series, No. 8. Rats and Mice. (Third Edition.)

Illustrated General Guide.

Summary Guide.

Short History of the Collections.

Guide to the History of Palaeontology.

Picture Post Cards.

Sets F 32, F 33, F 34, F 38, F 44, F 45, and F 46.—British Trees.

Sets F 39, F 40, and F 41.—British Orchids.

Sets F 42, F 43, and F 47.—British Flowering Plants.

Picture Booklets.

Sets B 18 and B 19.—Carnivora.

Sets B 20 and B 21.—Primates.

In addition to the above publications, 266 reports and descriptive papers, based on the collections, by members of the staff and others, were published in scientific periodicals.

The publication of the "Natural History Magazine" was continued.

C. TATE REGAN,

*Director.*

BRITISH MUSEUM (Natural History).

1 April, 1932.

## BRITISH MUSEUM, W.C.1.

The Museum is open free to the public on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., but after 4 p.m. in January, February, November, December, and after 5 p.m. in March and October, some only of the galleries remain open, viz. :—

On MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, and FRIDAYS.	<i>Ground Floor.</i> Exhibitions of Manuscripts and Printed Books.
	<i>Upper Floor.</i> Prehistoric Room ; Coins and Medals ; Romano-British, Anglo-Saxon, Oriental, Religious, and Ethnographical Collections ; Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Egyptian Rooms ; Assyrian, Babylonian, Phoenician, Carthaginian, and Coptic Rooms ; Glass, China, and Medieval Collections.
On TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS, and SATURDAYS.	<i>Ground Floor.</i> Egyptian, Assyrian, Greek and Roman Sculpture.
	<i>Upper Floor.</i> Prehistoric, Terra-cotta, Gold Ornament, Greek and Roman Life, Bronze, and Vase Rooms ; First, Second, Third, and Fourth Egyptian Rooms ; Phoenician and Carthaginian Rooms ; Prints and Drawings Exhibition Gallery.

On Sunday Afternoons.—The whole of the Exhibition Galleries are open free from 2 to 6 p.m.

The Museum is closed on Good Friday and Christmas Day.

Public Lecture Tours of the Collections are conducted by Official Guide Lecturers at 12 noon and 3 p.m. daily, except on Sundays. Private parties are also conducted, under conditions to be learned on application.

Catalogues, Guide Books, and Photographs of objects in the Museum can be supplied and lantern slides lent. Regulations and prices, and in the case of slides lists, may be had on application to the Director.

Casts from sculptures in the Museum may be obtained from the Department of Casts, Victoria and Albert Museum, S.W.7.

## BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY), S.W.7.

The Museum is open free to the public on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Sundays from 2.30 to 6 p.m.

The Museum is closed on Good Friday and Christmas Day.

Public Lecture Tours of the Collections are conducted free of charge by the Official Guide Lecturer at 12 noon and 3 p.m. daily, except on Sundays. The Guide Lecturer's services are also available (free) for private parties. Application should be made either verbally in the Entrance Hall, or by letter to the Director, British Museum (Natural History), S.W.7.



# BRITISH MUSEUM & BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY)

## Annual Report of the General Progress of the Museums for the year 1932

With a return of the Number of Persons  
admitted to the Museums, and a Statement  
of the Principal Objects added to the  
Collection

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LONDON

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1933

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PERSONS ADMITTED TO VIEW THE COLLECTIONS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM  
in each Year from 1927 to 1932, both Years included

	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932								
	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.								
January	-	70,856	4,985	81,915	4,776	73,193	5,838	84,035	7,523	81,377	7,663	87,082	12,129	
February	-	67,205	4,667	71,418	3,905	61,226	6,178	76,459	8,939	66,140	8,889	77,578	11,582	
March	-	81,269	6,075	75,056	4,449	66,583	6,792	84,014	10,841	66,425	8,857	94,835	10,581	
April	-	90,276	6,652	94,654	8,887	101,243	6,398	103,765	8,776	90,469	9,202	79,357	10,662	
May	-	77,804	6,562	89,434	5,399	83,448	6,968	85,498	8,658	77,168	9,723	79,733	12,056	
June	-	97,973	7,210	87,638	5,836	80,918	9,039	82,796	7,649	75,182	6,094	73,776	8,269	
July	-	111,970	8,774	116,077	9,363	112,479	8,501	111,385	8,572	102,076	9,455	80,769	12,922	
August	-	139,587	7,754	133,792	10,013	151,876	9,821	125,904	10,783	135,999	13,402	95,219	8,614	
September	-	101,683	7,714	97,570	10,404	99,607	8,813	94,817	9,713	132,265	7,139	80,935	10,566	
October	-	92,311	8,247	103,543	8,870	103,510	8,917	93,578	8,064	122,490	6,718	72,661	14,378	
November	-	80,287	4,283	77,385	7,212	86,639	7,773	78,776	9,065	108,335	8,875	68,969	9,738	
December	-	69,215	1,207	68,081	5,940	77,192	8,766	76,515	5,514	91,876	8,892	63,414	7,702	
Total Number of Persons admitted to view the General Collections							1,096,563	85,054	1,097,954	93,804	1,097,542	104,097	104,909	129,199
							1,181,617	1,191,758			1,201,639	1,254,711		1,083,527

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

The total number of visitors to the Museum showed a sudden and remarkable fall, the figures being 1,083,527 as against 1,254,711 in 1931 ; this is the lowest number since 1926. The number of Sunday visitors, on the other hand, rose to 129,199 from 104,909 in 1931, and is the highest yet on record.

The total number of students and enquirers who visited particular departments was 291,064, a considerable rise on the highest recorded previous figure for the years since the war, viz. 285,538 in 1930.

The number of volumes supplied to readers in the Reading Room (exclusive of those on the open shelves) was 2,026,920, a very large increase on the preceding year (by 416,571 on 1,610,349). The number of readers was 238,030, an average of 775 daily (29 more than in 1931) and the average number of books asked for increased again from 7.11 to 8.51. The number of readers in the Newspaper Room (which, owing to the transfer to Colindale, was open for 127 days only) fell from 17,853 to 8,044, but the number of visitors to the Newspaper Library at Colindale (where the Reading Room was opened on 23 August), rose from 215 to 1,979. During the year, 12,942 volumes were used by readers, of which 770 were sent to Bloomsbury for the purpose before the transfer.

In the Department of Manuscripts 38,854 Manuscripts and 4,047 Charters and Seals were issued for study (both increases on 1931), and the number of persons to whom Magna Charta was shown rose again from 29,068 to 29,920. The number of Students was 11,528.

The Lectures of the Official Guide-Lecturers were attended by approximately 30,900 persons, an increase of 633 on the previous year's attendance.

The number of books and MSS. issued for photography showed a rise, 5,195 as against 4,427, but still less than in 1930 (5,412). Other objects from the collections issued for photography numbered 2,664. (These figures do not include prints from existing official negatives). A total of 24,657 photostats or photographs of MSS. was taken, the increase of 1931 (17,974) being due to 9,100 specially taken for the Library of Congress. In the Department of Coins and Medals, 250 electrotyypes and 5,542 casts were made, against 480 and 5,076 in 1931.

The output of the Photographic Studio is shown by the following figures (in which those mentioned in the preceding paragraph are included, and the numbers for 1931 shown in brackets) : negatives, 3,234 (3,501) ; prints, 7,844 (9,449) ; photostats, 24,938 (22,020) ; lantern-slides, 545 (1,122) ; slides issued on loan 2,834 (2,653).

The sales of publications of the Trustees were : Catalogues and major publications, 6,100 (8,200 in 1931) ; Guide Books, 16,000 (20,050) ; Postcards, monochrome and coloured, 469,600 (553,750) ; Reproductions, 20,250 (23,500).

The proceeds of sales (gross, including the new edition of the General Catalogue of Printed Books) amounted to £9,442 (£12,093 in 1931).

Albums containing photographs of the more important objects in the collections have been placed in the Hall for consultation by the public.

The temporary exhibitions held during the year included those of French Prints and Drawings and of French Illuminated MSS., in connexion with the exhibition of French Art at Burlington House ; memorial exhibitions of Goethe and Sir Walter Scott ; an exhibition of gifts made to the Museum by the Egypt Exploration Society during its existence of fifty years ; one of Japanese Colour Prints acquired during the previous ten years ; and, in co-operation with the India Office, an exhibition to commemorate the bicentenary of the birth of Warren Hastings.

The total number of objects added to the collections in 1932 was 369,638, a decrease of 28,187 on 1931, and still below the total of 1930, which was 385,020.

The figures for the several Departments were as follows :—

Printed Books :

Books and Pamphlets	...	...	...	36,021
Serials and Parts of Volumes	...	...	...	90,789
Maps and Atlases	...	...	...	1,512
Music	...	...	...	8,180
Newspapers (single numbers)	...	...	...	217,433
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	4,285
Manuscripts	...	...	...	815
Oriental Printed Books and MSS.	...	...	...	1,506
Prints and Drawings	...	...	...	3,676
Prints and Drawings (Oriental)	...	...	...	210
Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities	...	...	...	958
Greek and Roman Antiquities	...	...	...	25
British and Medieval Antiquities	...	...	...	887
Ceramics and Ethnography	...	...	...	1,962
Coins and Medals	...	...	...	1,379
				369,638

The chief changes in the buildings were the opening of the new Newspaper Library at Colindale, and the commencement of a mezzanine floor over the Catalogue Room in the Library, designed to house more conveniently the Title Room, in which are stored the written catalogue slips and the shelf-catalogue, now occupying space in the Iron Library which will in due course be absorbed in the process of reconstruction.

The Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Egyptian Rooms (the last being that over the new Title Room) and the Babylonian Room were temporarily closed, as a consequence of a scheme by H.M. Office of Works for fire-proofing and where necessary strengthening the upper floors of the Museum building. A representative selection of the exhibited objects thus displaced has been arranged in the Egyptian Sculpture Gallery and the Nineveh Gallery.

Reference may be made to the *British Museum Quarterly* for full descriptions of the more important accessions, in promoting which, as last year, the National Art-Collections Fund and the Friends of the National Libraries played an active part ; mention in the same

connexion must be made of the Contemporary Art Society's annual donation. A selection of the chief acquisitions follows :—

*Printed Books.*

Early printed books : Bonaventura, *de instructione nouitiorum*, Montserrat 1499 ; and *Die Tafel des Kersteliken Levens* and *Dat Spiegel des Kersten Geloefs*, both printed by G. Leeu, Gouda 1478. Of English sixteenth century books, unrecorded first editions of Peter Leuens, *A right profitable booke for all diseases*, London 1582, and John Davis, *The Seamans Secrets*, London 1595. *A Prymer of Salisbury use*, Paris, 1535, is apparently unique.

*Manuscripts.*

A twelfth century Suetonius, acquired at the Chester Beatty sale, and a thirteenth century Chartulary of Aldborough, co. York, were the chief medieval accessions. The Duke of Bedford presented nine volumes of letters and papers of the Sheridan family, through the Friends of the National Libraries, and that body presented the holograph MS. of Anthony Trollope's Autobiography, besides completing the purchase of the Percy Collection papers mentioned in the Return for last year.

*Oriental Printed Books and MSS.*

The chief acquisitions were a copy made in 1482 of the Persian poem *Dastur i ushshak* by Fattahi, with two illuminations, presented by Mr. R. S. Greenshields, and a fifteenth century Hebrew MS., being Vol. I of a digest of Commentaries on the Talmud, by Zachariah ben Judah al-Aghmati.

*Prints and Drawings.*

The National Art-Collections Fund presented an unknown landscape drawing by Rembrandt, and a large Venetian woodcut, about 1500, of the battle of Zonchio (1499). A fifteenth century German woodcut of the Four Temperaments and the Four Elements was presented by Mr. John Charrington ; and Mrs. Theodore Rosenheim presented the collection of about 11,000 foreign book-plates made by Max Rosenheim. The most important purchase was an unknown fifteenth century Florentine engraving of the Descent from the Cross. In the Oriental Sub-Department, the most important acquisition, five of a very rare set of seventeenth century Chinese woodcuts of fruit and flowers, was due to the National Art-Collections Fund.

*Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities.*

The chief purchases were a granite sphinx, the face a portrait of the Nubian Tirhakah, from excavations at Kawa in the Sudan ; and two inscribed bronze daggers and a bowl with relief decoration from Luristan. Of donations may be mentioned : from Mr. Brunton's expedition to the Badari district a fine stone seated figure of the fifth Dynasty ; and from the Hyde-Campbell Thompson expedition to Nineveh, an inscribed stone cylinder of Shamshi-Adad I.

*Greek and Roman Antiquities.*

Twelve surgical and other implements, from the Louis Samson Collection, were presented by Dr. Davies Sherborn ; and a jug of red polished Cypriote ware, about 2500 B.C., by Mrs. H. S. Lauriston Scott.

*British and Medieval Antiquities.*

Of outstanding importance were nine gold ornaments of the Bronze Age, Treasure Trove from Towednack, Cornwall ; and a silver Ibero-Roman Treasure from Cordova.

*Ceramics and Ethnography.*

A pottery dish from Aleppo with blue and white decoration, probably Rakka, twelfth century, presented by Mr. O. C. Raphael. Two pottery figures of grave-guardians, T'ang Dynasty, presented by Messrs. Yamanaka and Co. A Maya pottery tripod-vase, with figures in relief, presented by Mr. H. A. Grant Watson.

*Coins and Medals.*

Pistrucci's wax model for his design of St. George and the Dragon on the sovereign of George III was presented by Capt. Bruce Ingram, O.B.E. A unique gold badge commemorating Rodney's victory of 12 April, 1782 was purchased.

*The Research Laboratory* has continued to give advice to other Government Departments and public bodies and museums in all parts of the Empire ; notably, the disfigurement of the Runnymede pillars with creosote was successfully removed, with the result that the stone has been not only not injured, but increased in hardness. Among the internal activities of the Laboratory may be mentioned the preparation of a safe mixture for cleaning ancient marbles, and of a medium for applying to plaster of Paris casts free from the usual tendency of waxed casts to retain dust ; and the treatment of the modern replica of a seventh century wooden Japanese statue to prevent the gesso separating from the wood owing to shrinkage. Experiments have also been made in the sterilising and conditioning of air in galleries.

The following publications have been issued in the course of the year :  
General Catalogue of Printed Books, new edition, Vols. III (Alev-Amer) and IV (Amer-Anne).

The Luttrell Psalter, 183 plates.

Guide to the Islamic Pottery of the Near East.

Corpus Vasorum, Part VII.

Casts of Persian Sculptures of the Achaemenid Period, 12 Plates.

Catalogue of Dutch and Flemish Drawings of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, Vol. V.

Guide to the Principal Coins of the Greeks.

Flints (Reprint).

British Museum Quarterly, Vol. VI, no. 4, Vol. VII, nos. 1-3.

Reproductions in colour of MSS., paintings, maps, etc. : nine large, six small, and seven sets of postcards, also two sets of postcards in monochrome.

G. F. HILL,

*Director and Principal Librarian.*

PERSONS ADMITTED TO VIEW THE COLLECTIONS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY),  
in each Year from 1927 to 1932, both years included.

	1927			1928			1929			1930			1931			1932		
	Week-day.	Sun-day.																
January	31,818	6,451	33,461	8,032	36,210	5,492	34,873	6,687	27,526	7,700	41,210	8,195						
February	26,228	6,344	29,966	7,807	24,702	6,596	29,421	7,735	26,973	7,345	26,211	7,960						
March	35,725	6,215	31,090	6,039	28,817	9,199	31,118	9,200	26,234	8,980	56,690	9,390						
April	49,808	6,774	64,540	11,494	59,109	6,945	66,124	7,937	57,846	8,844	44,032	8,653						
May	32,034	6,650	39,478	6,303	37,591	7,342	28,853	7,478	34,710	10,771	45,607	8,882						
June	44,541	5,356	31,057	5,477	29,065	7,940	29,241	5,972	29,987	5,698	30,629	6,031						
July	44,344	7,054	36,808	5,088	38,979	5,915	32,731	6,848	37,454	5,513	43,235	11,236						
August	85,962	6,767	69,601	7,419	64,892	7,128	58,080	9,619	62,424	12,521	63,556	6,099						
September	42,483	8,763	37,507	8,951	30,403	7,880	33,377	8,193	41,826	7,913	38,468	10,204						
October	36,389	8,850	39,300	7,980	39,870	7,648	31,419	7,350	34,297	6,687	42,114	13,180						
November	33,527	6,250	34,624	7,763	32,600	8,083	25,604	9,912	29,699	7,823	35,480	7,707						
December	27,255	3,730	30,994	6,494	30,574	8,218	23,517	5,085	28,577	6,822	34,481	3,659						
Total Number of Persons admitted to view the Natural History Collections (including students)	490,114	79,204	478,426	88,847	452,812	88,386	414,358	92,049	437,553	99,617	501,713	101,205						
	569,318		567,273		541,198		506,407		537,170		602,918							

NUMBER OF VISITS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF STUDY.

	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
Zoology (including Art Students)	10,867	13,216	13,281	14,661	13,005	11,840
Entomology	4,607	4,943	4,308	5,156	4,085	4,775
Geology	2,393	2,167	1,724	1,817	2,370	1,784
Mineralogy	414	346	409	367	412	341
Botany	4,235	3,944	3,683	4,595	4,119	4,260
General Library	934	943	576	533	744	538
Total	23,450	25,559	23,981	27,129	24,735	23,538

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY)

The total number of visitors to the Natural History Museum during 1932 was 602,918 as compared with 537,170 in 1931 ; the largest number in any previous year was 569,318 in 1927. The visitors on Sunday afternoons numbered 101,205 as against 99,617 last year. The total number of visitors attending the tours of the Official Guide-Lecturer during 1932 was 19,224, being an increase of 6,691 on the figure for 1931.

To supplement the tours conducted by the Guide-Lecturer, more advanced lectures have, since the beginning of October, been given on Monday mornings by members of the scientific staff ; some of these lectures have been given in the Board Room, and have been illustrated by lantern slides. This development seems to be much appreciated.

In view of the continued necessity for stringent economy, the Treasury were unable to include in the Estimates for 1933 provision for the filling of any of the thirteen new posts of Assistant Keeper, or for the recruitment of the additional staff on the subordinate establishment, which had been agreed upon in consequence of the recommendations of the Royal Commission on National Museums and Galleries.

### *Exhibition Galleries.*

The new Whale Building was handed over by H.M. Office of Works on 23 February, and a temporary exhibition of the Game Animals of the Empire was arranged in it and was opened to the public on 31 May. Several hundred mounted specimens and heads were transferred to the Gallery for this purpose. In addition to the specimens exhibited a large number of photographs by Mr. Marius Maxwell, Mr. Marcuswell Maxwell, Lady Broughton, and others were placed on the walls of the Gallery together with some oil and water colour paintings of animals by Mr. J. C. Dollman, R.W.S. The animals were arranged in three sections :—(1) Indo-Malaya ; (2) Africa ; and (3) Canada and Newfoundland.

Several additions of rodents and collections of game trophies from a variety of donors were made to the Upper Mammal Gallery. The Javan rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros sondaicus*), shot and presented by Mr. A. S. Vernay, was mounted at the donor's expense and placed on exhibition. The North Hall was rearranged under the supervision of the Director, and cases dealing with the musk rat and the nutria, or coypu, were placed in the Central Hall. In the Bird Gallery continued progress was made with the rearrangement of British Birds and two new cases of waders were added. The rearrangement of the Fish Gallery was continued.

In the Entomological Department many small alterations and improvements were carried out, but work was mostly devoted to the preparation of a diorama illustrating British freshwater insects. This was not completed, however, within the year.

Additions to the Geological Galleries included : a skeleton of a

Miocene mammal (*Moropus*) from U.S.A. ; a forefoot of *Baluchitherium* ; mammalian remains from the frozen ground of Siberia ; and a diorama showing fossil fishes of Downtonian and Lowest Old Red Sandstone times. The stratigraphical series in the Fossil Reptile Gallery was considerably condensed and rearranged, to make room for an exhibit of fossil fishes.

In the Mineralogical Department a special exhibit was made of the materials (meteoric iron, silica-glass, etc.) from the meteorite craters recently discovered at Henbury in Central Australia and at Wabar in Arabia.

Special exhibits of sea-weeds collected by Mr. G. Tandy in Florida, plants and photographs of Mr. H. St. J. Philby's journey across Arabia, and historical material from the Sloane collection with "seeds" of *Nelumbium* germinated by R. Brown after 150 years, were set out in the Department of Botany. The collection of plants from Nepal, lent by His Majesty the King, was placed on exhibition.

#### *Study Collections.*

The usual work of naming, labelling, registering, and incorporating accessions continued in all Departments. As in previous years, the Trustees are much indebted to numerous workers who gave their services voluntarily, many of whom worked continuously throughout the year. Research workers were given access to the collections in all Departments and were assisted in their investigations.

The rearrangement of the African ungulates in the new blocks of cabinets was continued, and a large part of the collection of Carnivora was rearranged and relabelled. In the bird section several large collections were determined and incorporated. In the reptile section systematic revisions were carried out in connexion with the work of determining incoming collections, particularly from north-east Africa and the British West Indies. The oriental agamas and monitors were revised. Among the fishes, the rearrangement of the spirit collection was considerably advanced, and work on the preparation of a catalogue of the flat-fishes (*Heterosomata*) was continued. The fishes collected by Dr. Christy in Lake Nyasa were studied. All the dry collections of the Arachnida and Myriopoda were moved from the Old Spirit Building to the New Spirit Building, and collections of Mollusca from various parts of the world were reported on.

In the Department of Entomology, steady progress was made in all Orders in the incorporation of accessions. Important collections dealt with wholly or in part during the year included the Salt collection of Hymenoptera ; parts of the material brought back by the Oxford University Expedition to British Guiana and by the St. George Expedition ; the collections made by Major H. St. J. B. Philby during his crossing of the Rub'al Khali, Arabia ; Miss Cheesman's collections from the New Hebrides ; Colonel Meinertzhagen's from the Ahaggar, Central Sahara ; Mr. Uvarov's from Asia Minor ; and the Bagnall collection of Thysanoptera. A large and valuable selection was made from the late J. J. Joicey's collection of Lepidoptera, and is housed in the Museum, although not yet presented. The Oriental Hesperiidae were entirely rearranged and all accessions incorporated ; and marked progress was made with the expansion and reorganisation of the Tincina, the Trichoptera, the Formicidae, Proctotrupidae, and Mallophaga.

In the Department of Geology work was done on Devonian cephalaspid ; Triassic fishes from Madagascar ; Liassic plesiosaurs ; and Cretaceous dinosaurs. Progress was made with the relabelling and rearrangement of the Eocene, Oligocene and Pliocene lamellibranchs, and revision and rearrangement of the Palaeozoic corals was continued. All the brachiopods were arranged in new cabinets. Nearly 500 thin sections were made of various plants and invertebrates for the purpose of study.

In the Department of Mineralogy the introductory collection to the study of rocks was entirely rearranged and relabelled.

In the Department of Botany collections from Nepal, the Burma-Tibet frontier, Akpatok Island, Chinese Turkestan, and Arabia were named and incorporated. The Polygonaceae, Oxalidaceae, Labiateae, Thymelaceae, Cyperaceae, and Gramineae in the General Herbarium were rearranged ; as were *Euphrasia*, *Atriplex*, *Sorbus*, and *Salicornia* in the British Herbarium ; the rearrangement and incorporation of British mosses was completed. Systematic investigations of *Combretum*, *Magnolia*, Podostemaceae and *Selaginella* were continued. By enclosing a portion of the second-floor landing the European room was extended to house the Boswell-Syme herbarium.

#### *Congresses, etc.*

Dr. L. J. Spencer, F.R.S. and Dr. G. F. Herbert Smith, as delegates of the Museum, attended the Annual Conference of the Museums Association held at Birmingham from 27 June to 2 July. Dr. Herbert Smith also attended the Annual Conference of the Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux at Somerville College, Oxford, in September, as representative of the Museum. Dr. H. Scott and Dr. F. W. Edwards represented the Museum at the Fifth International Congress of Entomology and the Centenary of the Entomological Society of France, in Paris, from 16 to 23 July. Dr. Scott was also an official representative of His Majesty's Government. Mr. A. C. Townsend was the delegate of the Museum at the Fifty-fifth Annual Conference of the Library Association held at Bournemouth in September.

The Director and several members of the scientific staff attended the meeting of the British Association at York in September.

#### *Advisory and Economic Activities.*

In the Department of Zoology a great deal of attention was given to the musk rat and nutria problems. The services of Mr. M. A. C. Hinton, Deputy Keeper, were lent to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries for a period of six months in connexion with the campaign for the extermination of musk rats. Questions relating to sealing and whaling were also dealt with. Mr. P. R. Lowe was on various occasions consulted by the Home Office regarding the protection of birds in the British Isles. Following a request from the Imperial Institute, an investigation of the species of reptiles which are actual or potential sources for the supply of skins was undertaken, and a report submitted, making recommendations with regard to the preservation of the fauna, and putting forward suggestions for the development of the industry. Advice was given in connexion with the corrosion of some culverts at

Southampton Docks, the identification of molluscan vectors of *Schistosoma* in Iraq etc. ; marine borers (Singapore, Palestine, Dover, etc.) ; destruction of crops by *Helicella*, and the infestation of houses by slugs. In the Department of Entomology approximately 1,060 economic inquiries were dealt with by correspondence and 776 by interviews. Work was continued on the chemical treatment of wood against the attacks of *Lyctus* and *Anobium*, and studies of a preliminary nature were made on the rhododendron bug (*Stephanitis rhododendri*), the seasonal variation of the so-called species of some psyllids found on pear, and the swarming periods of apple and pear coccids. Numerous inquiries from governmental sources and other public bodies were dealt with during the year. St. Luke's Church, Old Street, and the church at Crowhurst were examined and reported on. A considerable time was devoted to the compilation of the clothes moth pamphlet, which was published during the year.

#### *Acquisitions.*

The number of acquisitions in the several Departments during the year, apart from specimens received too late for incorporation and from books, was as follows :—

Department.	Purchases.	Donations, Exchanges, etc.	Total.
Zoology ... ...	3,204	38,399	41,603
Entomology ... ...	186,812	81,676	268,488
Geology ... ...	283	7,855	8,138
Mineralogy ... ...	209	3,408	3,617
Botany ... ...	9,802	77,871	87,673
Totals ...	200,310	209,209	409,519

The number of separate presents received during the year was 3,088, among the more interesting of them being :—

From His Majesty the King of the Hedjaz and Nejd : collections comprising a large series of rock specimens, 320 plants, 42 mammals, 39 birds, about 400 insects and 2,323 geological specimens collected by Mr. H. St. John Philby on his journey across the Arabian desert ; of greatest interest was meteoric iron and silica-glass from the site of the legendary ancient city of Wabar.

From Mr. A. S. Vernay : a collection of 184 mammals, 29 reptiles, 34 fishes, and 500 butterflies (including a specimen of the rare *Rhinoceros sondaicus*) from the Malay Peninsula ; and a collection of 60 mammals, 590 birds, and 254 flowering plants, obtained during the Vernay-Lang Kalahari expedition in 1930.

From Sir William Gowers, G.C.M.G. : an exceptionally fine pair of elephant tusks, which have been exhibited on loan in the Museum since 1930.

From Sir Richard Dane, K.C.I.E. : a collection of over 70 big game trophies from India and Africa.

From Mr. Gilbert Blaine : a mounted specimen of the African lion.

From His Excellency the Governor of Sierra Leone : the skull of a specimen of a dwarf race of African elephant, shot in the Gola forest.

From Lord Cranbrook and Captain F. Kingdon Ward : a valuable collection of mammals, birds, and reptiles from Upper Burma.

From Mrs. Leney : twenty-four mounted heads of antelopes from Uganda and the Sudan.

From the Marquess of Silgo : a Porbeagle shark, weighing 210 lb., which he caught off Achill Island, County Mayo.

From Officers of the Atlantic Fleet : collections of considerable value, including a fine specimen of the St. Vincent parrot, and two of the very rare eel *Anguillichthys*, obtained during a cruise to the West Indies.

From Colonel R. Meinertzhagen : a collection of animals, comprising 126 mammals, 23 reptiles and amphibians, 35 scorpions, 8 centipedes, and a number of spiders from the Ahaggar Mountains in the Central Sahara.

From Captain Adrian Jones : two plaster statuettes, made by him, of the famous race-horses "Persimmon" and "Cloister."

From Mr. R. E. Moreau : a collection of birds from Tanganyika Territory, consisting of 350 specimens representing 178 species.

From Colonel the Hon. M. T. Boscowen, M.C., D.S.O. : a collection of 72 bird-skins, representing 47 species, obtained during a journey through the Hadramaut in Southern Arabia.

From Dr. P. A. Buxton : a collection of birds from Iraq and Persia.

From the National Art Collections Fund : two water-colour paintings, by J. G. Keulemans, of two African bee-eaters.

From Sir J. Arthur Thomson : the whole of his very extensive collection of Alcyonaria.

From Dr. August Busck : 438 photographic drawings of insect material (Microlepidoptera).

From Miss J. Warburg : a collection of about 19,000 insects, chiefly Lepidoptera.

From Mr. F. N. Ashcroft : a further instalment of Swiss minerals, comprising 772 selected specimens from 62 localities.

From Lieut.-Colonel P. S. Allan, D.S.O. : manuscripts on minerals from the collection of his great-grandfather, Thomas Allan (1777-1833), whose mineral collection was acquired by the Trustees in 1860.

From Mrs. F. R. Wollaston : an inlaid mahogany cabinet of 10 drawers containing 570 models of crystals in wood, also a pocket blowpipe, formerly belonging to the late William Hyde Wollaston, F.R.S. (1766-1828).

From Miss K. B. Macvicar : the herbarium of the late Dr. Symers M. Macvicar, containing about 17,000 specimens, including an extensive series of liverworts, upon which Dr. Macvicar was the recognized British authority.

From Prof. J. Percival : 49 specimens of *Aegilops*.

From Miss Elizabeth Hombersley : a collection of 882 original drawings of British plants made by her great-aunt Miss Ellen Hawkins.

From Captain F. Kingdon-Ward : a large collection of plants from the Upper Irrawaddy and the Burma-Tibet frontier.

From Mr. Frederick J. Hanbury : the British herbarium of the late Dr. John Thomas Irwin Boswell (1822-1888), comprising about 20,000 sheets contained in 14 mahogany cabinets.

From the Rev. P. G. M. Rhodes : a collection of about 11,000 mosses.

From Mrs. T. G. Elliott : a collection of 400 specimens of Ceylon ferns made by her father, the late Rev. E. V. Freeman.

From Mrs. A. Sutton : a collection of about 5,000 British mosses, formed by her late husband, Mr. Alfred Sutton.

From Paymaster-Commander T. M. Salter, R.N. : 247 specimens of *Oxalis* and 345 specimens of other plants from South Africa.

From the Council of the Royal Botanical Society : a herbarium, including 400 plants from Asia Minor, 500 British plants, and collections of Indian ferns and European sea-weeds.

From H.R.H. the Princess Louise : a copy of "Explorations and Adventures in Equatorial Africa," by Paul B. Du Chaillu.

From the family of the late Colonel and Mrs. R. H. Beddome : 98 volumes and parts, two volumes of pamphlets of reptiles, one on shells, and two volumes containing a collection of ferns and other plants.

From the Friends of the National Libraries (with the cooperation of the late Mr. B. H. Soulsby) : three valuable works and a rare Linnean pamphlet, of which only two other copies are known.

The Trustees of the British Museum were cited as defendants to a summons heard in the High Court on 7 June with reference to the disposal of the very important collection of Lepidoptera bequeathed to the Museum by the Will of the late Mr. J. J. Joicey of the Hill, Witley. As the result, the collection will not come to the Museum by virtue of Mr. Joicey's Will, but it is understood that such portion of it as may be selected by the Museum may be presented under a provision in the Will of Mr. Joicey's mother, directing that the residue of her estate be allotted in certain circumstances to such charities as her Trustees might select.

The collection of fossils made by the late Mr. Robert Law, which he had bequeathed to his wife during his lifetime, and after her death to the Natural History Museum, has, at the request of Mr. Law's widow, been handed over to the Trustees. It includes 180 cephalopods, as well as some duplicate molluscs, brachiopods, corals, and fish-teeth.

His Majesty the King has graciously placed on loan in the Museum a further collection of plants from Nepal.

Important purchases include : the skull of an African elephant from Tanganyika Territory ; a young specimen in spirit of the flightless rail of Inaccessible Island ; a mounted specimen of a rare marsupial mouse (*Caenolestes obscurus*) from Ecuador ; a specimen of the rare giant squid *Architeuthis* ; Dr. R. S. Bagnall's collection of 15,000 Thysanoptera (thrips) ; a collection of nearly 114,000 specimens of British Coleoptera formed by the late Dr. David Sharp, F.R.S. ; a large fossil shark, *Hybodus hauffianus*, from Wurttemberg ; 10 fossil reptiles of the genus *Pachypleurosaurus* from Switzerland ; 3 crystals of diamond, weighing 10-17 carats, from the Belgian Congo ; a large mass of ruby, weighing 690 grams, from Burmia ; and plants from British Honduras, Tanganyika Territory, Spain, Brazil, and Mexico.

#### *Collecting Expeditions.*

The Trustees made contributions towards the expenses of an entomological collecting expedition to New Guinea by Miss L. E. Cheesman ; of an Oxford University expedition to Sarawak ; and of expeditions to British Guiana and to the Cameroons by Dr. G. S. Carter and Mr. L. T. Sanderson respectively.

A collection of over 1,000 birds was made in Yunnan with the aid of a grant from the Godman Exploration Fund, by the late Mr. G. Forrest.

As a result of the Cambridge University expedition to the East African Lakes, the Museum received about 900 fishes, 102 reptiles and amphibians, 300 to 400 molluscs, and some 3,300 insects.

Mr. W. N. Edwards returned from his geological expedition to India on 7 March, having obtained valuable specimens of fossil plants.

Mr. J. Vincent's expedition to Portuguese East Africa, financed by Rear-Admiral H. Lynes, C.B., C.M.G., resulted in the acquisition by the Museum of about 2,200 birds skins, 77 birds in spirit, and 52 skins and skulls of mammals, in addition to considerable collections of insects, plants, and geological specimens.

In the course of a botanical expedition to West Macedonia, Mr. A. H. G. Alston made a valuable collection of plants, numbering about 1,200.

As a result of a collecting tour in Czechoslovakia and Poland by Miss D. Aubertin and Miss E. Trewavas, the Museum received some 8,000 insects of various orders from the Tatra Mountains.

Mr. W. H. T. Tams and Mr. A. W. Exell, Assistant Keepers, left England on 1 October on an entomological and botanical expedition to the islands in the Gulf of Guinea.

#### *Publications.*

The following new works were published during the year :—

Index Animalium, Sectio Secunda. By C. Davies Sherborn.

Parts XXVIII, XXIX, XXX, and XXXI.

Great Barrier Reef Report.

Vol. I, Nos. 8-10.

Vol. III, No. 6.

Vol. IV, Nos. 7-13.

Insects of Samoa and other Samoan Terrestrial Arthropoda.

Part VII, Fascicle 4.

Diptera of Patagonia and South Chile. Part V, Fascicle 3.

The Cephalaspids of Great Britain. By E. A. Stensio.

Catalogue of Rocks. Part II. By W. Campbell Smith.

Guide to the British Freshwater Fishes. (Second Edition.)

Guide to the exhibition of Game Animals of the Empire.

Instructions for Collectors, No. 12—Worms. (Second Edition.)

Economic Series.

No. 5—The Bed-bug. (Third Edition.)

No. 11—Furniture Beetles. (Third Edition.)

No. 14—Clothes Moths and House Moths.

The publication of the "Natural History Magazine" was continued.

In addition to the above publications, 306 reports and descriptive papers, based on the collections, by members of the staff and others, were published in scientific periodicals.

C. TATE REGAN,

*Director.*

## BRITISH MUSEUM, W.C.1.

The Museum is open free to the public on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., but after after 5 p.m. in March and October, some only of the galleries remain open, viz. :—

On MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, and FRIDAYS.	<i>Ground Floor.</i>
	Exhibitions of Manuscripts and Printed Books.
On TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS, and SATURDAYS.	<i>Upper Floor.</i>
	Prehistoric Room ; Coins and Medals ; Roman-British, Anglo-Saxon, Oriental, Religious, and Ethnographical Collections ; Coptic Room ; Glass, Ceramic, and Medieval Collections ; Prints and Drawings.
	<i>Ground Floor.</i>
	Egyptian, Assyrian, Greek and Roman Sculpture.
	<i>Upper Floor.</i>
	Prehistoric, Terra-cotta, Gold Ornament, Greek and Roman Life, Bronze, and Vase Rooms ; First, Second, and Third Egyptian Rooms ; Phoenician and Carthaginian Rooms.

On Sunday Afternoons.—The whole of the Exhibition Galleries are open free from 2 to 6 p.m.

The Museum is closed on Good Friday and Christmas Day.

Public Lecture Tours of the Collections are conducted by Official Guide Lecturers at 12 noon and 3 p.m. daily, except on Sundays. Private parties are also conducted, under conditions to be learned on application.

Catalogues, Guide Books, and Photographs of objects in the Museum can be supplied and lantern slides lent. Regulations and prices, and in the case of slides, lists, may be had on application to the Director.

Casts from sculptures in the Museum may be obtained from the Department of Casts, Victoria and Albert Museum, S.W.7.

## BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY), S.W.7.

The Museum is open free to the public on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Sundays from 2.30 to 6 p.m.

The Museum is closed on Good Friday and Christmas Day.

Public Lecture Tours of the Collections are conducted free of charge by the Official Guide Lecturer at 11.30 a.m. and 3 p.m. daily, except on Sundays. Private parties are also conducted, under conditions to be learned on application. Application should be made by letter to the Director, British Museum (Natural History), S.W.7.

FOR OFFICIAL USE



# BRITISH MUSEUM & BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY)

## Annual Report of the General Progress of the Museums for the year 1933

With a return of the Number of Persons  
admitted to the Museums, and a Statement  
of the Principal Objects added to the  
Collection

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PERSONS ADMITTED TO VIEW THE COLLECTIONS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM  
in each Year from 1928 to 1933, both Years included.

	1928		1929		1930		1931		1932		1933	
	Week-day.	Sun-day.										
January	-	81,915	4,776	73,193	5,838	84,035	7,523	81,377	7,663	87,082	12,129	59,041
February	-	71,418	3,905	61,226	6,178	76,459	8,939	66,140	8,889	77,578	11,582	54,188
March	-	75,056	4,449	66,583	6,792	84,014	10,841	66,425	8,857	94,835	10,581	68,536
April	-	94,654	8,887	101,243	6,398	103,765	8,776	90,469	9,202	79,357	10,662	77,714
May	-	89,434	5,399	83,448	6,968	85,498	8,658	77,168	9,723	79,733	12,056	72,981
June	-	87,638	5,836	80,918	9,039	82,796	7,649	75,182	6,094	73,776	8,269	82,940
July	-	116,077	9,363	112,479	8,501	111,385	8,572	102,076	9,455	80,769	12,922	83,616
August	-	133,792	10,013	151,876	9,821	125,904	10,783	135,999	13,402	95,219	8,614	98,808
September	-	97,570	10,404	99,607	8,813	94,817	9,713	132,265	7,139	80,935	10,566	87,370
October	-	103,543	8,870	103,510	8,917	93,578	8,064	122,490	6,718	72,661	14,378	88,806
November	-	77,385	7,212	86,639	7,773	78,776	9,065	108,335	8,875	68,969	9,738	79,368
December	-	68,081	5,940	77,192	8,766	76,515	5,514	91,876	8,892	63,414	7,702	85,077
Total Number of Persons admitted to view the Gene- ral Collections	1,096,563	85,054	1,097,954	93,804	1,097,542	104,097	1,149,802	104,909	954,328	129,199	93,046	143,339
	1,181,617		1,191,758		1,201,639		1,254,711		1,083,527		1,076,385	

## NUMBER OF VISITS OF STUDENTS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS

	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933
Reading Room	182,214	215,449	214,375	225,660	226,270	238,030	236,533
Newspaper Room and Hendon Repository	17,396	17,784	17,431	18,920	18,068	10,023	4,548
Map Room	963	1,022	1,170	1,066	997	1,124	1,423
State Paper Room	—	—	—	—	—	*3,976	10,321
Department of Manuscripts	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Department of Oriental Printed Books and MSS.	—	10,402	10,665	10,873	12,488	11,941	11,528
Print Room	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Egyptian and Assyrian Department	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greek and Roman Department	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Galleries of Sculpture	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
British and Medieval Department	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Department of Oriental Antiquities and of Ethnography†	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Coin and Medal Room	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	238,535	276,890	272,352	285,538	284,885
						292,260	292,476

\* Opened June 1932.

† In June 1933 the Department of Ceramics and Ethnography was reconstituted.

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

*Visitors.*

It will be seen that the fall in the attendance of visitors which began in April 1932 was checked in June 1933, from which time the numbers showed a steady increase until, at the end of the year, the total of 1,076,385 was within a little of that of 1,083,527 for 1932. The Sunday attendances included in the total were the highest on record, 143,339 (on 53 Sundays) as against the previous highest record in 1932 of 129,199 (52 Sundays).

The exhibition of the Codex Sinaiticus was chiefly responsible for the attendance of 29,400 visitors on the last five days of the year.

The number of visitors attending the free lectures of the Official Guide Lecturers was 26,979 as compared with 30,900 in 1932.

A panel of authorised guides was formed in August, and 3,337 visitors have availed themselves of the services of these guides, whose charges are on a scale approved by the Trustees.

*Students.*

The total number of visits paid by students to the Reading Rooms and Students' Rooms of the Museum remained practically stationary. The Reading Rooms, including the Newspaper Library at Colindale, the Map Room and the State Paper Room, received in all 252,825 visits as compared with 253,152 in 1932.

The number of works consulted in the Reading Room, apart from those on the open shelves, showed a further increase to 2,170,756, while 155,791 volumes were consulted in the other rooms of the Library, making the total 2,326,547. Of this number 70,336 volumes of newspapers were used at Colindale Newspaper Library.

43,400 Manuscripts and 6,739 Charters and Seals were consulted in the Department of Manuscripts; Magna Charta was exhibited to 47,283 visitors as compared with 29,920 in 1932; 21,216 Oriental Printed Books and Manuscripts were consulted in the Students' Room of the Department.

*Photography and Casts.*

The number of books issued for photography was 6,562; 27,921 photostats (an increase of 3,264) were made from 1,988 Manuscripts, etc., issued; and 2,314 objects from other Departments were photographed. A photostat machine has been installed at Colindale Newspaper Library.

In the Department of Coins and Medals 4,526 casts and 198 electro-types were made.

Arrangements were made during the year for the transfer of the work of the Cast Department at the Victoria and Albert Museum to the British Museum, so far as originals in the British Museum were concerned, and certain members of the staff of the Cast Department were transferred also.

*Studio.*

The output of the Photographic Studio is shown in the following table :—

		1931	1932	1933
Negatives	...	3,501	3,234	3,374
Prints	...	9,449	7,844	9,642
Lantern Slides	...	1,122	545	1,075
Photostats	...	22,020	24,938	21,695
Lantern Slides issued on loan	...	2,653	2,834	2,943

*Publications.*

The sales of the publications were\* :—

	1931	1932	1933
Catalogues and major publications	8,200	6,100	5,950
Guide Brooks	20,050	16,000	18,068
Postcards, monochrome and coloured	553,600	469,600	429,184
Reproductions	23,500	20,250	18,666

The chief works issued during the year were :—

General Catalogue of Printed Books, Vols. V (Anne-Aris) and VI (Aris-Asmo); and excerpts Aristophanes and Aristotle.

Subject Index of Modern Books, 1926-30.

Catalogue of Additions to the MSS, 1916-20.

Catalogue of the Greek, Etruscan and Roman Paintings and Mosaics.

Facsimile of the Manuscript of Al-Kitab Al-Bari of Kali by Ismail Ibn Kasim Al-Kali.

Excavations at Ur, 1932-33 by C. L. Woolley (Reprint from Antiquaries Journal).

British Museum Quarterly, four parts.

The proceeds of sales, including volumes of the new edition of the General Catalogue, amounted to £8,566\* (£9,442 in 1932.)

A new and larger bookstall in the Entrance Hall enables the publications to be displayed to better advantage. The bookstall in the Northern Galleries has been closed in consequence of the structural alterations taking place in the Egyptian Rooms.

*Departments.*

A re-grouping of the Oriental Ceramics, Sculpture, Metalwork and Antiquities in general, together with Oriental Paintings, Prints and Drawings, was effected during the year in a Department of Oriental Antiquities with a Sub-Department of Ethnography, the Department

\* These figures are for the financial year 1933-4.

of Ceramics being abolished. Western Ceramics will return eventually to the Department of British and Medieval Antiquities.

### *Buildings.*

The works on the buildings commenced in 1932 were continued. The new Title Room over the Catalogue Room was completed and taken into use. The Manuscripts Saloon was temporarily closed in order to strengthen the supports to the floor of the Asiatic Saloon above ; advantage was taken of the closing to revise the Exhibition of Literary and Historical MSS. The roof of the Assyrian Basement was repaired and strengthened, and the space devoted temporarily to the Staff and Students' Rooms of the Department, which had been closed owing to the reconstruction of the North Wing. The Assyrian Sculptures in the gallery of the Basement were necessarily closed to the public.

### *Temporary Exhibitions.*

The more important additions to the various departments are now shown in the Entrance Hall in an Exhibition of Recent Acquisitions. Among the acquisitions thus shown were the Cesena Treasure and the Paston Letters.

The Warren Hastings Exhibition, arranged in conjunction with the India Office, was continued until the end of January 1933. Exhibitions of the Print Department included the prints and drawings added during the Keepership of Mr. Campbell Dodgson, drawings and watercolours of the Turner Bequest, Japanese colour prints and oriental paintings, and Japanese prints from the Shannon Collection. The Galsworthy MS. of *The Forsyte Saga* and the George Smith Memorial Bequest of MSS. have been exhibited in the Grenville Library.

An exhibition of objects from Mr. Mallowan's excavations at Tell Arpachiyah was arranged.

The Codex Sinaiticus was exhibited during the last few days of the year, and long queues of visitors formed up in the Entrance Hall to pass before the case in which it was placed.

### *Representation at Congresses, etc.*

The Trustees were represented at Congresses, etc., as follows: at the International Congress of the History of Art, at Stockholm, by Dr. G. C. Brooke ; at the International Congress of Papyrologists, at Munich, by Mr. T. C. Skeat ; at the West German Archaeological Society's Congress, at Groningen, by Mr. C. F. C. Hawkes ; at the Museums Association's Conference, at Norwich, by Mr. E. J. Forsdyke and Dr. H. J. Plenderleith ; at the Library Association's Conference, at Harrogate, and at the American Library Association's Conference and the International Library Federation's Committee Meeting, both at Chicago, by Mr. A. Esdaile.

### *Acquisitions.*

The total number of objects added to the collections in 1933 was 409,379, an increase of 39,741 on 1932, and the highest since 1929, when the total was 441,778.

The figures for the several Departments were as follows :—

Printed Books :

Books and Pamphlets	...	...	...	...	36,693
Serials and Parts of Volumes	...	...	...	...	69,484
Maps and Atlases	...	...	...	...	1,497
Music	...	...	...	...	8,288
Newspapers (single numbers)	...	...	...	...	278,275
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	2,878
Manuscripts	...	...	...	...	497
Oriental Printed Books and MSS.	...	...	...	...	1,927
Prints and Drawings	...	...	...	...	2,244
Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities	...	...	...	...	967
Greek and Roman Antiquities	...	...	...	...	105
British and Medieval Antiquities	...	...	...	...	715
Oriental Antiquities and Ethnography	...	...	...	...	1,699
Series of objects	...	...	...	...	51
Coins and Medals	...	...	...	...	4,059
					409,379

Full descriptions of the more important objects acquired during the year may be found as usual in the British Museum Quarterly. The National Art-Collections Fund, the Friends of the National Libraries, the Contemporary Art Society, and the Christy Trustees have again helped the Museum to add to the collections.

The objects allotted to the British Museum from Mr. Woolley's Excavations at Ur and from Mr. Mallowan's Excavations at Tell Arpachiyah were received.

*Printed Books and Maps.*

The chief acquisitions were :—

Among books printed in the fifteenth century : Saint Augustine, *Sermo de verbis euangelicis non potest filius*, printed by the Printer of Dictys, Cologne, 1470, presented by J. H. Burn, Esq., through the Friends of the National Libraries ; Martial d'Auvergne, *Tres deuotes louèges de la glorieuse vierge Marie*, S. Vostre, Paris, 1494 ; *Horae ad vsum Sarum*, P. Pigouchet for S. Vostre, Paris, C. 1500, presented by Dr. A. W. Pollard, C.B. ; W. Samuel, *The Practice practised by the Pope and his prelates*, and *A Warning for the Cittie of London*, c. 1550, purchased with the aid of the Friends of the National Libraries ; three Elizabethan news-quartos presented by Dr. Rosenbach, *News Sent out of Britayn*, 1591 ; *News out of France*, 1591 ; and *A . . . report . . . of diuorse vnknowne Foules latelie taken at Crowley in the Countie of Lyncolne*, 1586 ; *Corrant out of Italy, Germany, etc.*, Amsterdam, 1621 ; an Anjou Missal, 1523 ; the Statutes of Perugia, 1526-28 ; the Statutes of Nice, Torino, 1578 ; Juan de Borja, *Empresas morales*, Praga, 1581 ; Juan de Yciar, *Libro . . . a escreuir perfectamente*, Sevilla, 1596, the most famous Spanish writing book ; Cervantes, *La Discreta Galatea*, 1618.

Among fine bindings : three seventeenth century French stamped tortoiseshell bindings, presented by Her Majesty the Queen ; and specimens of the work of several modern English fine binders, notably one of T. J. Cobden-Sanderson (bequeathed by Miss C. M. B. Poole)

and one of Miss Katharine Adams (given by Miss Walker in memory of Sir Emery Walker).

### *Manuscripts.*

The Codex Sinaiticus, the famous fourth century Greek manuscript of the Bible, one of the most important acquisitions ever made by the Trustees, passed into the custody of the British Museum on 27th December, but the purchase was not completed and the manuscript was not incorporated in the collections during the year. Towards the purchase price of £100,000, the Trustees contributed £7,000 from their own funds and the Government advanced the remaining £93,000, the Trustees undertaking to raise at least £50,000 towards repayment of this sum. The publicity given to the purchase aroused very great interest, and contributions began to pour in, although the appeal of the Trustees was not issued until after the close of the year.

Of the medieval MSS. acquired during the year, the most important was an eighth century copy of works of St. Augustine, together with the unique MS. of Commodianus "Carmen Apologeticum," probably from Nonantola; other important accessions were: a twelfth century Greek MS.; the thirteenth century Muchelney Breviary, presented anonymously in memory of the late owner, Mr. J. Meade Falkner; a fifteenth century York Missal, also from the Meade Falkner collection; and a fourteenth century Ritual and a fifteenth century Sarum Hours, both presented by Sir George Warner.

Among modern works and letters the most notable was the George Smith Memorial Bequest, by the late Mrs. Elizabeth Smith (whose surviving children agreed to waive their life-interest), consisting of the holograph MSS. of Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre*, *Shirley*, and *Villette*, a volume of Emily Brontë's poems, Mrs. Browning's *Sonnets from the Portuguese*, Browning's *The Ring and the Book* and Thackeray's *The Wolves and the Lamb*.

Among collections of papers and historical documents the chief additions were: the remaining Paston Letters (fifteenth century) not already in the Museum or the Bodleian; these represent the first two volumes printed by Sir John Fenn in 1787 and were presented by him to King George III; they have been purchased with the help of the Friends of the National Libraries; Nelson's Log Book, May–October 1805, presented by Lord Wakefield through the Prime Minister; and eight letters from Talleyrand to Napoleon I, presented by the Earl of Rosebery in memory of his father's forty years as a Trustee of the British Museum.

A fine collection of forty-two Yorkshire charters, twelfth and thirteenth centuries, was acquired.

### *Oriental Printed Books and Manuscripts.*

The chief acquisitions were: an Arabic MS., *Al-Amālī*, copied A.H. 1140; sixty-six Chinese works, with a facsimile of the Diary of Tseng Kuo-Fan, presented by Mrs. Wakefield; Persian and Turkish MSS. presented by an anonymous donor who has made similar gifts for many years; and a collection of Tibetan printed books and MSS., presented by Sir Charles Bell, K.C.M.G.

*Prints and Drawings.*

The more noteworthy of the additions were : a unique anonymous Florentine fifteenth century engraving with twelve roundels of animal designs ; a line-engraving, St Francis, by Benedetto Montagna ; a line-engraving by N. A. Mair, presented by subscribers as a tribute to Campbell Dodgson, Keeper, 1912-32 ; a series of coloured etchings of Fox-hunting, by Thomas Rowlandson, presented by the National Art-Collections Fund ; ten old-master drawings presented by Mrs. Selwyn Image ; a drawing by Fragonard, Nessus and Deianira (after Rubens), presented by the National Art-Collections Fund ; and 190 sketches and sporting subjects by J. and R. Pollard, presented by Mr. A. du Cane.

*Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities.*

The chief purchases were : Egyptian sculptured stone head-rests, a carnelian figure of Amen-Ra, and a colossal ram sphinx, of about 700-660 B.C. ; a Babylonian painted vase of an early date, and a small Sumerian head.

Gifts included an Egyptian collection bequeathed by Mr. W. L. S. Loat ; scarabs presented by Miss K. V. Okey and Prof. Newberry ; and a valuable long hieratic papyrus of early date and eight drawings by Mrs. de Garis Davies, presented by Dr. A. H. Gardiner. The Egypt Exploration Society gave a sculptor's trial piece, a stone vase in the form of a duck, and a scarab, all from Amarna. The Trustees of the late J. J. Stevenson, in accordance with his wishes, presented a selection from his Egyptian collection, and Mr. O. C. Raphael gave a fine painted jug from Luristan.

*Greek and Roman Antiquities.*

The Department received, from an anonymous donor, three marble palettes of the Early Cycladic period, from Mrs. Ormerod a Greek chalcedony intaglio of fifth century B.C., and from Mr. S. C. Atchley a sard intaglio of first century B.C.

The Earl of Elgin deposited on loan a collection of gold jewellery of the Geometric period, from Athens, and a series of fibulae, armlets, etc., from Early Iron Age tombs near Potidaea, with a mid-fifth century B.C. statuette of Athena flying her owl. Mr. H. L. Stephenson presented a corinthian aryballos and an Attic black hydria, and Mr. Sidney Smith, a Phoenician bowl engraved with friezes, from Amathus, Cyprus (the long lost "Amathus" bowl of the Cesnola Collection).

*British and Medieval Antiquities.*

A valuable and interesting series of jewelled gold ornaments, part of a treasure found at Cesena, Italy, and a group of bronze ornaments probably from Hungary, were acquired with the assistance of the National Art-Collections Fund. The Christy Trustees continued their long series of gifts to the department, in particular a Bronze Age spoon, and a series of pottery vessels, glass, and objects of bone and iron from an Anglo-Saxon hut at Bourton-on-the-Water. Mr. R. Garraway Rice bequeathed palaeolithic flint implements from various localities in England, a series of Bronze Age weapons and pottery, and a series of antiquities of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries.

*Oriental Antiquities and Ethnographical Collections.*

The collection of Oriental Ceramics has been enriched by a Chinese pottery group of the Han Dynasty, presented by a body of subscribers; an important pottery vase and cover of the Han Dynasty, presented by Mr. O. C. Raphael; a collection of Chinese porcelain and fragments from Sir Percival David; a bequest by Miss E. R. Anderson of Chinese porcelain and pottery; and by many other gifts. A collection of 821 Arab glass weights and bottle stamps was presented by Mrs. Llewellyn Phillips, Chinese paintings by Mr. A. W. Bahr and Mrs. Alfred Morrison, and Japanese woodcuts by Mrs. Garraway Rice and Mrs. Selwyn Image.

Tributes in honour of Mr. Laurence Binyon included two Japanese screens and Persian and Rajput paintings, while Mr. Binyon himself presented two Japanese screens and another Rajput painting.

Mr. W. J. Andrews gave an inscribed Arab bronze bowl and Sir Charles Bell, K.C.I.E., a series of objects from Tibet, Bhutan and China. A Chinese bronze mirror, T'ang Dynasty, was purchased from the Vallentin Fund; The Katikiro of Uganda presented an ethnographical series from the BaNyoro tribe, Uganda; and the late Mr. W. L. S. Loat bequeathed a collection of ethnographical objects.

A large totem pole (the "Eagle Beaver" totem pole) was obtained from British Columbia, and the Christy Trustees included in their numerous gifts an English fourteenth century bronze ewer which had become a war fetish of the Ashantis, and an English silver bowl with the hall mark of 1674, showing repeated repairs by native craftsmen, both taken from the Ashantis during the war with that nation.

*Coins and Medals.*

The Rogers collection of Greek Coins of Thessaly, comprising 902 coins in fine condition, 281 Roman silver coins from the Selsey hoard, and 53 coins from the Tallow Treasure Trove, were acquired.

The Executors of the late Lionel Fletcher presented, in accordance with his wish, his collection of over 1,200 Irish eighteenth century Tokens; seventy-two Italian Renaissance medals were bought at the Whitcombe Green sale; and 111 medieval Muhammadan coins from the Miles collection were also acquired.

*Research Laboratory.*

The antiquities submitted for treatment and the specialised problems for solution showed no reduction in number.

Remarkable results were obtained in the preservation and reconditioning of antiquities, such as with a Viking sword from the National Museum of Ireland, and with an Egyptian bronze statuette.

Advances were made in various microscopic methods of investigation, a field fruitful in evidence as to the technique of manufacture as well as sometimes to the age of objects, and on more than one occasion during the year forgeries were detected.

The general assistance to the Departments of the Museum was continued and an increased number of the technical staff of this and other Museums underwent a course of training.

GEORGE HILL,  
Director and Principal Librarian.

PERSONS ADMITTED TO VIEW THE COLLECTIONS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY),  
in each Year from 1928 to 1933, both years included.

	1928		1929		1930		1931		1932		1933	
	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.
January	-	-	-	-	33,461	8,032	36,210	5,492	34,873	6,687	27,526	7,700
February	-	-	-	-	29,966	7,807	24,702	6,596	29,421	7,765	26,973	7,345
March	-	-	-	-	6,039	28,817	9,199	31,118	9,200	26,234	8,980	56,690
April	-	-	-	-	64,540	11,494	59,109	6,945	56,124	7,937	57,846	8,844
May	-	-	-	-	39,478	6,303	37,591	7,342	28,853	7,478	34,710	10,771
June	-	-	-	-	31,057	5,477	29,065	7,940	29,241	5,972	29,987	5,698
July	-	-	-	-	36,808	5,088	38,979	5,915	32,731	6,848	37,454	8,513
August	-	-	-	-	69,601	7,419	64,892	7,128	58,080	9,619	62,124	12,521
September	-	-	-	-	37,507	8,951	30,403	7,880	33,377	8,196	41,826	7,913
October	-	-	-	-	39,300	7,980	39,870	7,648	31,419	7,350	34,297	6,687
November	-	-	-	-	34,624	7,763	32,600	8,083	25,604	9,912	29,699	7,823
December	-	-	-	-	30,994	6,494	30,574	8,218	23,517	5,085	28,577	6,822
Total	Number of Persons admitted to view the Natural History Collections (including students)	478,426	88,847	452,812	88,386	414,358	92,049	437,553	99,617	537,170	101,713	505,365
		567,273	541,198			506,407					602,918	101,347

NUMBER OF VISITS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF STUDY.

	1928		1929		1930		1931		1932		1933	
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Zoology (including Art Students)	-	-	13,216	13,281	14,661	15,156	13,005	11,840	11,840	11,840	13,828	13,828
Entomology	-	-	4,943	4,308	1,817	2,370	4,085	4,775	4,775	4,775	4,589	4,589
Geology	-	-	2,167	1,724	367	412	1,784	1,784	1,784	1,784	1,764	1,764
Mineralogy	-	-	346	409	4,595	4,119	341	341	341	341	423	423
Botany	-	-	3,944	3,683	576	744	4,260	4,260	4,260	4,260	4,210	4,210
General Library	-	-	943	533			538	538	538	538	545	545
Total	-	25,559	23,981	27,129	24,735		23,538				25,359	
							606,712					

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY).

His Royal Highness Prince George and Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York visited the Museum on 9 March and 27 March respectively.

The total number of visitors to the British Museum (Natural History) during 1933 was 606,712 as compared with 602,918 in 1932. The visitors on Sunday afternoons numbered 101,347 as against 101,205 last year. The total number of visitors attending the tours of the Official Guide-Lecturer during 1933 was 18,702, being a decrease of 522 on the figure for 1932.

The Treasury agreed to the inclusion in the Estimates for 1934 of provision for the recruitment during the year of three new Assistant Keepers and five subordinate staff.

The Trustees approved plans submitted by H.M. Office of Works for the first half of the new Entomological Block, for the further extension of the new Spirit Building, and for the refitting of the portion of that building occupied by the Entomological Department.

During the past four years over 400,000 herbarium sheets have been added to the Department of Botany, and the limits of the accommodation available in the Department have almost been reached.

### *Exhibition Galleries.*

The exhibition of Game Animals of the Empire was dismantled, and the replacement of the specimens in the lower Mammal Gallery was begun. Temporary exhibits of Southern Rhodesian mammals, and of mammals recommended for protection by the International Conference for the Protection of the Fauna and Flora of Africa, were placed in the new Whale Hall. Minor rearrangements were made in the Bird Gallery, and the arrangement of the British series was continued. A small exhibit illustrating the commercial uses of reptile skins was arranged in the Reptile Gallery. Progress was made with the rearrangement of the Fish Gallery, and the exhibit illustrating coloration of fishes was completed. The rearrangement of the exhibits of Coelenterates and Sponges was begun.

In the Entomological Department the diorama of aquatic insects was completed. The exhibit of ants was entirely rearranged and expanded and general revisional work was carried on as usual.

Additions to the Geological Galleries included : a special exhibit of fossil mammal remains from Olduvai, Tanganyika ; a group of the sessile Lamellibranch (*Plicatostylus*) from the Lias of U.S.A. ; a fine example of *Hoplites vectensis* from the Gault of Hants ; and a series of Jurassic Brachiopoda illustrating the internal structure. The mounting in the Fossil Reptile Gallery of the skeleton of *Iguanodon atherfieldensis* from the Isle of Wight was completed.

In the Department of Mineralogy a temporary exhibit of a selection of minerals (gemstones, agate cups, medicines, etc.) from the collection of Sir Hans Sloane (1753) was set out in a lighted case in the Central Hall. The cases introductory to the study of rocks were entirely

rearranged and a new guide-book prepared in explanation of this collection. The most prominent addition to the department during the year was a mass of silica-glass, of unknown origin, found on the surface of the Libyan Desert.

Special exhibits of plants collected by Captain Kingdon-Ward in Tibet and Burma, X-ray photographs of flowers and fruits, lent by Messrs. Ilford, a further selection of clay models of flowering plants, lent by Miss G. Huxham, and a model showing the effect of heath fires were set out in the Department of Botany. An exhibition of fresh specimens of fungi was continued for several weeks in the autumn, and at the end of the year an exhibit of volumes from the Sloane herbarium was set up in connexion with the exhibit in the Central Hall.

#### *Study Collections.*

The usual work of naming, labelling, registering, and incorporating accessions continued in all departments. As in previous years, the Trustees are much indebted to numerous workers who gave their services voluntarily, many of whom worked continuously throughout the year. Research workers were given access to the collections in all departments and were assisted in their investigations.

The rearrangement of the collection of ungulate skins was continued. The entire collection of skulls and skeletons of the smaller Cetacea was removed to the basement of the Whale Hall, and the ungulate and human collections in the Osteological Room were rearranged in the space thus set free. Various improvements were effected in the arrangement of the bird collections, especially in the reconstructed cabinets for holding the skins of the larger birds. The collection of frogs was largely rearranged to meet modern views of classification. In the Arachnida section a very large number of microscopical preparations of Acari were remounted.

In the study collections of the Department of Entomology the expansion consequent upon the incorporation of accessions and detailed revision was continuous. In the Lepidoptera the greatest advance was made in the Hesperiidae, the Lymantriidae and the Microlepidoptera; in Diptera the nematocerous families and the Dolichopodidae and Syrphidae received most attention; in Hymenoptera considerable progress was made with the sawfly and ant collections, and it at last became possible to make a serious attack upon the hitherto much neglected parasitic groups. Work was continued upon the Coleoptera along general lines and in the neuropterous groups the Trichoptera collections were very greatly improved. In Orthoptera it is not possible to record any especial progress owing to lack of staff, and in the Hemiptera most advance was made in the Membracidae, Aphididae and Coccidae, all groups of considerable economic importance.

In the Department of Geology work was done on Miocene, Pliocene and Pleistocene mammals from France; Amphibia from Nova Scotia; Eocene and Oligocene Gastropoda and Lamellibranchia; and Cretaceous Lamellibranchia. The Tertiary Decapod Crustacea were all relabelled and much reregistering was done in connexion with the forthcoming Catalogue of Cirripedia, Vol. II. The Geological Society's collection of foreign Brachiopoda was labelled and incorporated in the general collection. 140 thin sections of various fossils were made for the purpose of study.

In the Department of Mineralogy a special study was made of the

fall of exceptionally large meteorites which resulted in the formation of meteorite craters and the devastation of wide areas on the earth's surface.

In the Department of Botany a little over 41,000 specimens were incorporated in the collections and over 115,000 specimens were received and sorted. Special investigations were carried out on the genera *Meconopsis*, *Magnolia*, *Combretum*, *Selaginella* and *Caulerpa*; and collections from the Great Barrier Reef, Tortugas, Gulf of Guinea, Burma-Tibet, Macedonia, and Angola were studied. In the General Herbarium the Umbelliferae, part of Fagaceae and certain families of Monocolytedons were rearranged and the indexing and recovering of the British Herbarium was completed.

#### *Congresses, etc.*

Dr. C. Tate Regan, F.R.S. and Dr. G. F. Herbert Smith represented the Museum at the Annual Conference of the Museums Association, held at Norwich from 3 to 7 July. Mr. W. Campbell Smith attended, as a delegate of the Museum and of His Majesty's Government, the International Geological Congress, held in Washington, D.C., from 12 to 29 July. Dr. W. T. Calman, F.R.S. represented the Museum at a Meeting of the Council of the Freshwater Biological Association, held at Windermere on 5 September. Mr. A. C. Townsend attended, as the representative of the Museum, the Annual Conference of the Library Association, held at Harrogate from 18 to 21 September. Dr. G. F. Herbert Smith was the delegate of the Museum at the Tenth Annual Conference of the Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux, held at Bristol from 22 to 24 September; and also at the National Conference for the Preservation of Rural England, held at Buxton from 13 to 15 October.

The Director and several members of the scientific staff attended the meeting of the British Association at Leicester in September.

The Museum was represented on the panel of advisers to the United Kingdom delegation to the International Conference for the Protection of the Fauna and Flora of Africa, held in London in November, by Dr. C. Tate Regan, F.R.S. and Dr. G. F. Herbert Smith. For the preparation of the first Annex to the Convention, Captain J. G. Dollman and Mr. P. R. Lowe were added to the panel, and the former was appointed Joint Secretary of the Technical Committee.

#### *Advisory and Economic Activities.*

During the past year a considerable amount of assistance was given by the Department of Zoology to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in connexion with the musk rat menace. Advice on this matter was also given to many public bodies and private individuals who asked for information. Much attention was paid to the recolonization of London and other home ports by the black rat (*Rattus rattus*). Assistance was given to H.M. Customs and Excise in the difficult task of determining imported mammal skins for tariff purposes. Various problems connected with whaling, sealing, tropical diseases, and colonial agriculture were also dealt with. Mr. H. W. Parker served as a member of the Committee on Reptile Skins set up by the Imperial Institute and drafted the schedules to the Committee's report. Much work was done on the identification of commercial reptile skins.

Among the most interesting economic inquiries received during the year were some from the Ministry of Health and from the Editor of the Pharmaceutical Journal that established the occurrence in the City of London of *Liponyssus bacoti*, a mite parasitic on rats, previously recorded from Egypt, China, Japan and the United States. Advice was also given in connexion with the identification of molluscan vectors of *Schistosoma* in Accra ; snails infesting coffee plants ; the blocking of water-supplies by Polyzoa ; and parasitic worms.

In the Department of Entomology the economic collections, except those portions relating to household pests, were disbanded, the information which they were intended to illustrate having previously been recorded in the form of a MS. catalogue. Inquiries concerning household pests and insects of economic importance were not numerous, and the Assistant Keepers concerned were, therefore, able to devote far more time to systematic work than in recent years. Mr. A. W. McKenny Hughes was appointed to serve on the Departmental Committee on Bed-bugs set up by the Ministry of Health in connexion with the Government's slum clearance proposals.

#### *Libraries.*

In the General Library a further transference of books to the basement has had to be made, and only the volumes of periodicals of the last twenty-five years are now housed in the main corridor.

During the year 1,558 separate works, 9,752 parts of periodicals, and 304 maps were added to the General and Departmental libraries. In addition, a number of original drawings, manuscripts and photographs were received. All these were stamped, press-marked, and catalogued.

Among the gifts received were :—

From the Carnegie Institution of Washington : twenty-seven volumes of their scientific publications.

From Señor C. Stuardo : several of the rare early volumes of the *Revista Chilena de Historia Natural*.

From the Librarian of the Queen's University, Belfast : a number of miscellaneous parts of periodicals, all of which helped to fill up gaps in the Museum collection, and several reports and pamphlets relating to the Belfast Natural History Society.

From the Friends of the National Libraries (with Dr. P. Gosse) : four original manuscripts by P. H. Gosse (1810-1888).

From Mr. E. Heron-Allen, F.R.S. : eleven volumes on precious stones, including an early work by Marbodus (1036-1123), printed in 1531.

From the Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew : an interleaved and annotated copy of W. J. Hooker's British Flora, and sixty-eight sheets of drawings, which had belonged to the Rev. G. E. Smith, whose herbarium was already in the Museum.

The late Mr. Basil H. Soulsby bequeathed to the Museum Library all Linnean printed matter and manuscripts which the Librarian might select. Among the volumes thus acquired were a copy of Sir William Osler's *Bibliotheca Osleriana* and *Système naturelle du règne animal* . . . suivant la méthode Klein, Paris, 1754, a rare work not mentioned in Hulth's " *Bibliographia Linnaeana*," 1907.

*Additions to the Collections.*

The number of acquisitions in the several departments during the year, apart from specimens received too late for incorporation and from books, was as follows :—

Department.	Purchases.	Donations, Exchanges, etc.	Total.
Zoology ... ...	5,606	30,951	36,557
Entomology ... ...	80,570	159,402	239,972
Geology ... ...	277	8,559	8,836
Mineralogy ... ...	35	1,525	1,560
Botany ... ...	7,458	108,031	115,489
Totals ...	93,946	308,468	402,414

The number of separate presents received during the year was 2,955, among the more interesting of them being :—

*Zoology.*

From H.H. the Maharaj Kumar of Bikaner: a tiger skin and skull from the Kotah State, Rajputana.

From His Excellency the Governor of Sierra Leone: four additional skulls of a dwarf race of African elephant from the Gola forest.

From Colonel C. W. M. Norrie: a very fine head of an African elephant and a collection of ungulate heads from East Africa and Alaska, shot by the late Major G. M. Norrie.

From Major P. H. G. Powell-Cotton: 18 skins and 10 skeletons, including the skin and skeleton of a Giant Eland, shot during his recent tour of the Sudan.

From Mrs. Armitslead: a large collection of mounted heads of East African and Asiatic ungulates and carnivores, shot by the late Major P. K. Glazebrook.

From Lord Rothschild, F.R.S.: a cast of a very large halibut weighing about 456 lb.

From Mrs. Penrose: a collection of 2,066 birds' eggs, formed by the late Dr. F. G. Penrose;

From the Rev. A. H. Cooke, D.D.: two collections of shells, comprising many hundreds of very valuable specimens.

*Geology.*

From Mr. S. L. Wood: a valuable collection of fossil mammals, birds, and reptiles, chiefly from the Isle of Wight.

From Lord Rothschild, F.R.S.: a very large slab, containing a reconstructed group of palm leaves from the Tertiary of Italy.

*Botany.*

From Miss I. E. Wright: the British herbarium of her father, the late C. A. Wright, F.L.S., containing about 6,000 items, including specimens from many eminent British botanists.

From Mrs. H. G. Sewell: the herbarium of Philip Sewell (1865-1928), containing about 3,000 sheets of British plants.

From Dr. R. J. D. Graham : 1,269 flowering plants, collected by himself and others in Mesopotamia.

From Mrs. P. Moring : the herbarium of her late husband, Mr. Percy Moring, containing a representative collection of flowering plants from the Dover district and collections made at Hampstead during the Hampstead Regional Survey.

From Dr. N. A. Mackintosh : the British herbarium of his grandfather, Dr. Edward Ballard, F.R.S. (1820-1897), containing 669 specimens, including plants of special interest from Islington.

From Mr. J. Gossweiler : a further collection of 433 specimens of Angolan plants.

From Colonel A. H. Wolley-Dod : a large collection of British *Rubi* (brambles).

The late Mr. James Groves bequeathed to the Museum his herbarium, part of which (600 specimens) was presented to the Museum in 1918. The bequest consisted of 11,000 flowering plants, 6,230 charophyta, 2,570 mosses and 700 algae. A cabinet, a press, and a number of separates were also presented by Mrs. Groves.

Mrs. Stephenson, widow of the late Lieut.-Colonel J. Stephenson, F.R.S., who during his life-time had given to the Museum the greater part of his private collection of Oligochaeta, presented the remainder of the collection, consisting principally of about 1,000 microscope slides, the whole of Colonel Stephenson's collection of books and pamphlets relating to the Oligochaeta and a binocular dissecting microscope used by him in his work.

The late Mr. C. C. Lacaita bequeathed to the Museum his herbarium, a part of which had been presented to the Museum before his death. The bequest consisted of about 40,000 sheets of plants, and was specially rich in Italian and Spanish material. Mrs. Windsor Clive, Mr. Lacaita's daughter, also presented his herbarium cabinets.

The late Dr. G. H. Rodman bequeathed to the Museum a series of mounted photographs of animals, insects, and plants, including microphotographs of fossil plants, diatoms, and plant and animal hairs.

The Museum also received by bequest the herbarium of the late Mr. Ashley Henry Maude, contained in four cabinets, and comprising about 5,000 sheets of flowering plants, mainly from European localities, especially the Tyrol, Switzerland, the Riviera, South Spain, and the Balearic Islands.

The Trustees accepted an offer from Colonel C. Theodore Green to present to the Museum at some future date his collection of coloured lantern slides, consisting of 2,391 slides of British flowering plants and fungi, in addition to a number of slides depicting landscapes.

His Majesty the King has graciously placed on loan in the Museum a further collection of plants from Nepal.

Important purchases included : an African elephant tusk weighing 214 lb. (completing a pair of record weight); Mr. H. F. Witherby's collection of over 9,000 bird skins, representing some 1,200 to 1,300 forms of Palaeartic birds; the skeleton of a sea-elephant from South Georgia; the Loddiges collection of 1,070 humming birds; the families Lycaenidae and Hesperiidae from the Fruhstorfer collection of Lepidoptera; Dr. Oscar John's collection of Thysanoptera, containing 1,436 slides and 892 tubes of specimens; Mr. H. St. J. K. Donisthorpe's collection of British beetles, ants, and myrmecophiles, together with

a collection of foreign ants, and part of his library ; two fossil crinoids from Budenbach ; six fishes from the Eocene of Monte Bolca, Italy ; a specimen of dioptase crystals from the French Congo ; one faceted danburite, weighing 11.20 carats from the Mogok Ruby Mines, Burma ; European algae ; lichens from Java and Sumatra ; and flowering plants from Borneo, Brazil, Indo China, and the Philippine Islands.

### *Collecting Expeditions.*

The Trustees made contributions towards the expenses of an expedition to South-West Africa and Angola by Dr. Karl Jordan ; of a collecting expedition to Uganda by Mr. R. Akroyd ; of a collecting expedition by Dr. René Malaise to South-West Yunnan and the Burmese Shan States ; of an expedition to the New Hebrides, led by Mr. J. R. Baker of the University Museum, Oxford ; and of expeditions to Indo China and to the Pyrenees by Monsieur J. Delacour and Mr. M. E. Moseley respectively. They also contributed a further sum towards Miss L. E. Cheesman's entomological collecting expedition to Papua.

Dr. G. S. Carter's expedition to British Guiana resulted in the acquisition by the Museum of 20 mammals, 150 reptiles and amphibians, and 770 fishes, together with many specimens of molluscs, crustaceans, and other invertebrates.

A collection of 690 birds, 66 eggs, 743 insects, and 534 plants, chiefly from Bhutan, was made by Mr. F. Ludlow and Captain G. Sherriff, with assistance from the Godman Exploration Fund.

As a result of the recent visit by Dr. A. B. Rendle, F.R.S., to the West Indies, the Museum received about 800 plants. He also arranged for the continuance of the loan of specimens to the Museum in connexion with the "Flora of Jamaica."

Mr. F. C. Fraser accompanied Colonel E. T. Peel on a voyage in his yacht to the north of Scotland, the Shetlands and the Faroë, during the month of July. As a result of this cruise the Museum received two carcases of the White-sided Dolphin, and one of the Common Dolphin, as well as a number of specimens of birds and fishes from the Faroë and Shetlands.

Mr. W. H. T. Tams and Mr. A. W. Exell returned on 1 April from their collecting expedition to the islands in the Gulf of Guinea, having obtained valuable collections of insects and plants. It has been arranged for Mr. Exell to spend two months in the Botanical Department of the University of Coimbra, Portugal, studying the collection of plants made in the Islands and collections from Angola.

Mr. A. H. G. Alston returned from his botanical expedition to Southern Albania in July, having made a collection of 1,000 different plants, including examples of many extremely rare and little known species.

During a second visit to Dry Tortugas, Florida, Mr. G. Tandy made many additions to his previous collections, and did valuable research work.

In addition to studying types of Diptera, Dr. F. W. Edwards was able, in the course of a visit to certain continental Museums, to collect a number of specimens and to arrange for exchanges with and gifts to the Museum.

Dr. Anna B. Hastings worked from 20 September to 4 October at the Laboratory of the Freshwater Biological Association at Wray Castle,

Windermere, and in the following week visited other localities in the Lake district and Northumberland to collect freshwater Polyzoa of which she brought back sixty-eight specimens.

Mr. T. H. Withers spent two weeks during August in visiting various localities in the neighbourhood of Mons, Belgium, examining Cretaceous beds in connexion with his Catalogue of Cretaceous Cirripedes ; and collecting fossils.

Mr. J. E. Dandy left England on 1 December to take part in a collecting expedition led by Mr. C. G. T. Morrison, of Christ Church, Oxford, to the South-western Sudan and Congo Nile divide.

#### *Publications.*

The following new works were published during the year :—

Library Catalogue. Vol. VII.

Catalogue of the Works of Linnaeus. (Second Edition).

Index Animalium, Sectio Secunda. By C. Davies Sherborn.  
Parts XXXII and XXXIII.

“ Terra Nova ” Expedition Reports.

Zoology. Vol. IV, No. 6. By W. Garstang.

Great Barrier Reef Report.

Vol. II, Nos. 3-5.

Vol. III, Nos. 7-8.

Diptera of Patagonia and South Chile.

Part IV.

Part V, Fascicle 3.

Part VI, Fascicle 4.

Revision of the Genus Leptonema. By M. E. Moseley.

Fossil Insects, No. 3. The Panorpoid Complex in the British Lias.  
By R. J. Tillyard.

Catalogue of the London Clay Flora. By E. M. Reid and M. E. J. Chandler.

Guide to Rocks. By W. Campbell Smith.

Economic Series.

No 2.—The Louse as a Menace to Man. (Second Edition.)

The publication of the “ Natural History Magazine ” was continued.

In addition to the above publications, 274 reports and descriptive papers, based on the collections, by members of the staff and others, were published in scientific periodicals.

C. TATE REGAN,  
*Director.*

BRITISH MUSEUM (Natural History).

1 April, 1934.



# BRITISH MUSEUM & BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY)

## Annual Report of the General Progress of the Museums for the year 1934

With a return of the Number of Persons admitted to the Museums, and a Statement of the Principal Objects added to the Collection

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PERSONS ADMITTED TO VIEW THE COLLECTIONS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM  
in each Year from 1929 to 1934, both Years included.

## NUMBER OF VISITS OF STUDENTS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS

	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934
Reading Room	215,449	214,375	225,660	226,270	238,030	236,533	238,586
Newspaper Room and Hendon Repository	17,784	17,431	18,920	18,068	10,023	4,548	5,986
Map Room	1,022	1,170	1,066	997	1,124	1,423	1,722
State Paper Room	—	—	—	—	*3,976	10,321	8,977
Department of Manuscripts	—	—	—	—	11,528	12,761	12,677
Department of Oriental Printed Books and MSS.	10,665	10,873	12,488	11,941	5,513	4,740	4,131
Print Room	5,172	5,150	5,255	10,284	10,622	10,864	4,221
Egyptian and Assyrian Department	11,551	10,700	10,295	1,465	1,259	1,129	11,415
Greek and Roman Department	3,237	1,236	1,365	2,394	2,096	2,047	824
Galleries of Sculpture	2,481	2,594	2,595	1,398	1,196	1,396	2,264
British and Medieval Department	2,107	1,671	659	1,452	2,050	2,130	713
Department of Oriental Antiquities	1,626	1,614	1,597	2,648	2,494	2,501	1,909
Ethnography†	3,013	2,903	3,222	3,122	2,455	2,692	2,486
Coin and Medal Room	2,783	2,635	2,416	—	—	—	2,811
Total	276,890	272,352	285,538	284,885	292,260	292,476	294,591

\* Opened June 1932.

† In June 1933 the Department of Ceramics and Ethnography was reconstituted.

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

*Visitors.*

The increase in the number of visitors to the British Museum, which began in June 1933, continued until May 1934, the exhibition of the Codex Sinaiticus being primarily responsible for large attendances in January and the early months of the year. The figures for the months following May show small decreases, with the exception of those for the holiday month of August. The grand total of 1,192,849 is the largest since 1931.

The visitors attending the free lecture tours of the Official Guide Lecturers were 22,447 (26,979 in 1933), and the visitors conducted by the authorised guides, for whose services moderate fees are payable, numbered 9,742.

*Students.*

The Reading Rooms of the Library, including the Colindale Newspaper Library, the Map Room and the State Paper Room, received 255,271 visits as compared with 252,825 in 1933. The service of books to the Reading Rooms was carried on under difficulties caused by reconstruction work now in progress ; the number of volumes supplied to readers was 2,220,964, as compared with 2,326,547 in 1933.

42,388 Manuscripts and 4,289 Charters and Seals were issued in the Students' Room of the Department of Manuscripts, and Magna Charta was exhibited to 51,406 visitors. 21,795 volumes were consulted in the Department of Oriental Printed Books and Manuscripts.

The total number of visits paid by students to the various Departments of the Museum is higher than any recorded since 1913.

*Photography and Casts.*

The number of books issued for photography was 3,564 ; 2,225 Manuscripts were photographed with a total of 18,790 photographs and photostats taken. From other Departments of the Museum 3,086 objects were photographed.

A new price list of casts was issued during the year and the production of both casts and new moulds was steady. In the Department of Coins and Medals 6,311 casts and 185 electrotypes of coins have been made, beside casts of objects from other Departments of the Museum.

*Studio.*

The output of the Photographic Studio is shown in the following table :—

		1932	1933	1934
Negatives ...	...	3,234	3,374	3,429
Prints ...	...	7,844	9,642	8,750
Lantern Slides ...	...	545	1,075	1,302
Photostats ...	...	24,938	21,695	22,993

*Loans of Lantern Slides.*

6,878 lantern slides were issued on loan (2,943 in 1933 and 2,834 in 1932), the remarkable increase being due to the demand for slides illustrating lectures on the Codex *Sinaiticus*.

*Publications.*

The sales of the publications were :—

	1932	1933	1934
Catalogues and major publications	6,100	5,950	5,870
Guide Books ... ... ...	16,000	18,068	15,594
Postcards, monochrome and coloured ... ... ...	469,600	429,184	426,731
Reproductions ... ... ...	20,250	18,666	17,296

The chief works issued during the year were :—

General Catalogue of Printed Books, Vol. VII (Asmu-Ausz) Vol. VIII (Aut-Baes) and Vol. IX (Baet-Banz).

British Museum Quarterly, four parts.

The Assyrian Sculptures.

Facsimile of the Manuscript, *Diwan I Zu'L-Fakār*.

Catalogue of Fifteenth Century Woodcuts, Vols. I and II.

Hieratic Papyri, 3rd Series, the Chester Beatty Gift.

Catalogue of Political and Personal Satires, Vol. V.

Arabic Printed Books, Vol. III (Indexes).

The proceeds of sales, including volumes of the new edition of the General Catalogue, amounted to £9,556 (£8,566 in 1933).

*Buildings.*

The reconstruction of the Northern Galleries has dislocated communications, and in particular has made the King Edward VII Galleries difficult of access, although the construction of a passage from the N.E. Staircase has provided a partial remedy. The long-awaited lift from the Main Entrance Hall to the first floor was not opened until after 1934; it affords sensible relief to visitors to the King Edward Galleries, but until the North Door is again open to the public this portion of the Museum will continue to be somewhat neglected.

Reconstruction of the N.W. Quadrant of the Iron Library has begun, a work entailing great preparation on the part of the staff in the orderly removal of many thousands of books to new and rather distant quarters. The new quadrant will have six floors instead of three as at present, and all the racks will be fixed, the use of rolling racks being discontinued.

*Temporary Exhibitions.*

The Codex *Sinaiticus* took pride of place in the Recent Acquisitions Room for the greater part of the year, making with the Codex *Alexandrinus*, the early Pentateuch and other Biblical treasures a temporary exhibition of exceptional interest to many visitors. Exhibitions of Oriental paintings and of Oriental colour-prints have been arranged as

usual; the 1,000th anniversary of the Persian poet Firdausi was commemorated by an exhibition of Persian Manuscripts; and the centenary of the death of the Hungarian scholar, Csoma de Körös, by an exhibition of appropriate books and manuscripts.

*Representation at Congresses.*

Dr. Brooke, whose death later in the year was a great loss to the Museum, represented the Trustees at a session of the International Committee of Historical Sciences in Paris; Mr. Esdaile attended meetings of the International Library Committee in Madrid, and Dr. Bell, while on a visit to the U.S.A. as a guest of the University of Michigan, attended the Annual Conference of the American Library Association at Montreal. Mr. T. D. Kendrick attended a Nordic Thing at Bremen. Mr. L. C. Wharton represented the Museum at the International Slav Congress at Warsaw; Mr. R. Hinks was representative of Britain and of the British Museum at the Byzantine Congress at Sofia. Dr. Plenderleith visited the International Conference of Experts on Museum Planning at Madrid. Mr. Robin Flower presented an address from the Trustees at the celebration in Brussels of the Commission Royale d'Histoire de Belgique.

At the invitation of the Foreign Office, the British Museum has undertaken the organization of representation of this country at international congresses connected with humanistic studies.

*Acquisitions.*

The total number of objects added to the collections in 1934 was 381,569, fewer by 27,810 than in 1933.

The figures for the several Departments were as follows:—

Printed Books :	1933	1934
Books and Pamphlets	36,693	37,843
Serials and Parts of Volumes	69,484	77,925
Maps and Atlases	1,497	1,347
Music	8,288	8,934
Newspapers (single numbers)	278,275	243,038
Miscellaneous	2,878	3,656
Manuscripts	497	218
Oriental Printed Books and MSS.	1,927	2,350
Prints and Drawings	2,244	1,712
Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities	967	1,104
Greek and Roman Antiquities	105	73
British and Medieval Antiquities	715	528
Oriental Antiquities and Ethnography	1,699	1,347
Series of objects	51	53
Coins and Medals	4,059	1,441
	409,379	381,569

Full descriptions of the more important objects acquired during the year may be found as usual in the *British Museum Quarterly*. The National Art-Collections Fund, the Friends of the National Libraries, the Contemporary Art Society, and the Christy Trustees have again added to the collections of the Museum.

*Printed Books and Maps.*

The chief acquisitions were :—

*Incunabula :*

Alain Chartier, *La Belle dame sans mercy*, printed at Lyons, c. 1490 ; bound with *La Belle dame qui eut mercy*, Lyons, c. 1495 (fifth type of Jean de Vingle) ; of the latter only one other copy is known. Campphora, *Dell' immortalità dell' anima*, Cosenza 1478 (one of only four known productions of the press of Salomonius). Aegidius Romanus, *Commentaria in libros Physicorum Aristotelis*, Padua 1493, presented by Mr. Falconer Madan, Jun. Indulgence printed by Pynson, 1491.

Sixteenth century and later :—Luigi da Porto, *Romeo e Giulietta*, 4th ed. (Giovanni Griffio, 1553). *Oeuvres de Virgille*, translated by Guillaume Michel and Octavien de St. Gelais, 1532 (illustrated throughout) ; Tacitus, *Annals I-V*, translated by Etienne de la Planche, Paris 1548 (the first French translation of Tacitus) ; Robert Crowley's *One and thyrtye Epigrammes*, London 1550 (one other copy known), presented by Mr. W. A. Marsden ; a library of some 2,000 volumes, of Irish interest, and for the most part printed in Ireland, collected by Mr. Matthew Dorey, and presented by Lord Moyne ; a collection of 230 volumes of English books from 1594 to 1930, bequeathed by Mr. A. V. Peters.

Among fine bindings : Daudet's *Tartarin sur les Alpes*, Paris 1855, by Zaehnsdorf ; *Howleglas*, London 1867, by T. Riviere ; the 1892 Kelmscott Press edition of Wilfrid Scawen Blunt's *Love Lyrics and Songs of Proteus* by Messrs. Birdsall, in the style of Mr. Douglas Cockerell (all three presented by Mr. Julian Moore) and the 1821 Chiswick Press edition of Sir Thomas More's *History of King Richard III*, by F. Bedford, presented by Mr. Moore and Lt. Col. W. E. Moss.

*Manuscripts.*

The Codex Sinaiticus, mentioned on last year's Return, was finally incorporated in the collections in this year. Public subscriptions accounted for £53,194 of the price ; £7,000 was contributed from the Museum's reserve ; and the remainder was paid by the Government. Subscriptions still continue to be received in small quantities and will by so much reduce the amount of the Government contribution.

Of great interest from the point of view of Biblical criticism are two fragmentary leaves from a papyrus codex of an unknown Gospel, dating from about 150 A.D., and thus the earliest specifically Christian document in existence.

The medieval MSS. include two leaves of a treatise on the Vices with illuminations attributed to Cybo, the 'Monk of Hyères' ; a volume of lives of female saints in verse, of the XIII-XIV cent., from Roode Closter in Belgium ; a XV cent. Confessionale of St. Antoninus, Archbishop of Florence, and other Franciscan tracts (presented by Mr. A. G. Hammond in memory of his wife). Of modern autograph works and letters, special mention is due to the autograph MS. of Thackeray's 'Second Funeral of Napoleon,' presented by the surviving children of the late George and Elizabeth Smith (a supplement to the George Smith Memorial) ; a volume of letters from Charles Dickens to his wife, pre-

sented by Mrs. Kate Perugini in 1899 but reserved until the death of Sir Henry Dickens ; three volumes of letters from Ellen Terry to George Bernard Shaw, presented by the latter ; two volumes of autograph poems of Wilfred Owen, presented by the Friends of the National Libraries and a number of subscribers ; two volumes of letters of John Wesley to Ann Tindall, presented by Mr. C. Tindall, C.I.E. ; and a letter of 'Old Crome' to James Stark, 1816, presented by the Friends of the National Libraries.

Among collections of papers and historical documents, the first place belongs to the series of letters of John Thurloe and General Fleetwood to Henry Cromwell (1655-1659), presented by the Marquess of Lansdowne through the Friends of the National Libraries, who added three letters which originally formed part of the series ; and Mrs. Rose Throckmorton's narrative of her own and her first husband, Anthony Hickman's, sufferings during the Marian persecution, presented by Sir Hickman B. Bacon, Bart.

#### *Oriental Printed Books and Manuscripts.*

The more important acquisitions were an Arabic MS. of devotional exercises with tales of the miraculous powers of prayer (13th cent.) ; an Arabic commentary on texts from the Kur'an, embodying tales from the life of Joseph (13th. cent.) ; MSS. of two Persian works on Sufism (14th cent.), and a number of Persian MSS. presented anonymously, including the *Divan* of Salmān Sāvajī (15th cent.) ; selections from poems of Sanā'ī, a fine sixteenth century copy ; a fine copy (17th cent.) of moral verses by a poet at the age of 70, addressed to his son, and other seventeenth century MSS. ; and a Turkish MS. Romance in verse by Shaikh Oglu (15th cent.).

#### *Prints and Drawings.*

The most important acquisitions were : a study of trees, by John Crome ; an anonymous German woodcut of the XV century, of St. Bridget, from the Oettingen-Wallenstein Collection, presented by Mr. Henry Van den Bergh, through the National Art-Collections Fund ; a study of a male torso by Rubens, presented by Lady Beit and Sir Alfred Beit, Bart. ; a unique line engraving of the Adoration of the Magi by the 'Master of the Weibermacht,' from the Northwick Collection ; a line engraving, by the Master P.M., of Adam and Eve, from the same collection ; and a study by Vittore Carpaccio for his picture of St. Jerome in his Study in San Giorgio degli Schiavoni, presented by the National Art-Collections Fund.

#### *Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities.*

The chief acquisitions were all Egyptian : the upper portion of a segmented, inlaid wooden figure, a limestone head of a man, a limestone mould for making reliefs, and a wax model of a female figure, and (presented by A. Mitchell Innes) a collection of antiquities including a small wooden figure of a kneeling Pharaoh, a glazed composition figure of Isis suckling Horus, and two bronze figures, of a princess and of Imhotep.

#### *Greek and Roman Antiquities.*

The more interesting acquisitions were gems of the Minoan, Mycenaean and archaic Greek periods, and a cameo with a portrait of a Roman general ; four fine bronzes of the Geometric period ; a gold finger-ring

of about 300 B.C., with a figure of Aphrodite, and three gold pendants of about the same or rather earlier date ; and an early Greek bronze statuette of Athena, of Peloponnesian style.

### *British and Medieval Antiquities.*

Among the prehistoric acquisitions was a series of 96 quartzite implements from stratified deposits at Oldoway, Tanganyika Territory, presented by the East African Archaeological Expedition (through Dr. L.S.B. Leakey), and a series of stratified flints from Farnham (Surrey), presented by Major A. G. Wade. A series of Romano-British antiquities from the City of London was presented by the Christy Trustees. A massive gold signet-ring with the crest of Digby, attributed to Sir John Digby (d. 1533), found at Kidwelly Castle, was presented by Earl Cawdor.

### *Oriental Antiquities and Ethnography.*

The most important acquisition was a set of three bronze chariot-pole finials, inlaid with gold, from Chin-ts'un, of the Han dynasty, purchased with the assistance of the National Art-Collections Fund. A pall made of glass tesserae, of the same period and provenance, was also acquired. A fourteenth century pottery albarello, probably Egyptian ; a Persian pottery jug, probably from Rhages ; and a Rhages pottery cup of the thirteenth century, presented by Mr. O. C. Raphael, may also be mentioned. Among the Oriental paintings were a page from a MS. of the *Ta'rikh-i-Alfi*, with Mughal miniatures of the period of Akbar (purchased with the assistance of the National Art-Collections Fund) ; a page from a Persian MS. of the thirteenth century of the *Materia Medica* of Dioscorides, presented by Sir Bernard Eckstein, Bart., who also presented a fifteenth century miniature from Nizami's *Layla and Majnun* ; a Persian drawing of dancing Dervishes (16th cent.) ; and a Japanese painting of a dragon by Tani Buncho (first half of the nineteenth century).

The Ethnographical acquisitions included a large and important collection of West African textiles and Javanese 'batik,' presented by Mr. C. A. Beving on behalf of Messrs. Beving & Co. ; a valuable series of 250 ethnographical objects from the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, presented by Major and Mrs. P. H. G. Powell-Cotton ; a group of objects from S.E. Dutch New Guinea, presented by Lord Moyne ; a totem-pole from Nass River, British Columbia ; the gold-plated finial of a state-umbrella belonging formerly to the Ashanti chief Prempeh (presented by the Christy Trustees) and a series of ancient Peruvian textiles from Nasca, presented by Mr. Henry Van den Bergh through the National Art-Collections Fund.

### *Coins and Medals.*

The most important coins acquired were three silver staters of Abdera of the fifth century, two of them (Apollo with Victory, and seated Hera) being unique ; an electrum sixth of Phocaea of the fifth century B.C., presented by Mr. H. C. Hoskier ; a very rare gold stater of Smyrna of the time of Mithradates the Great ; an unpublished silver stater of Lycia of the fifth century B.C. of the dynast Täththiväibi ; and an unpublished Roman medallion of Marcus Aurelius and Commodus,

presented by Mr. Howard Carter. A fine specimen of the medal of the Italian printer Francesco Girardenghi (1504), otherwise only known from a very poor example, was purchased.

*Research Laboratory.*

The bulk of correspondence has been almost doubled, and will continue to increase ; much is of a routine kind, but one letter led to the discovery of a useful negative test for the antiquity of glass. The ordinary work, such as cleaning of oil-paintings, bleaching of stains in water-colours, removal of foxing from prints, cleaning and repair of silver, bronze and iron ; cleaning and sterilization of miniatures, and of engraved and etched copperplates, etc., proceeded as usual. Questions of genuineness have been investigated ; for instance the modern re-cutting of an Egyptian ivory was proved by the ultra-violet light, which was also used to detect reworking of Roman marble heads, and to reveal a dedication, invisible by ordinary light, on the so-called Bangor Missal.

Publications by the staff of the Department are : *The Preservation of Antiquities* (for the Museum Association) ; *La Restauration d'une Momie Egyptienne de la IIIe Dynastie* (Mouseion), both by Dr. Plenderleith, who, with Mr. Cursiter contributed an article on the *Problem of Lining Adhesives for Paintings* (Technical Studies in the Field of the Fine Arts).

Instruction has been given to delegates from provincial museums and to members of the technical staff of other departments.

GEORGE HILL,

May, 1935.

Director and Principal Librarian.

PERSONS ADMITTED TO VIEW THE COLLECTIONS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY),  
in each Year from 1929 to 1934, both years included.

	1929		1930		1931		1932		1933		1934		
	Week-day.	Sun-day.											
January -	-	-	36,210	5,492	34,873	6,687	27,526	7,700	41,210	8,195	44,815	6,280	
February -	-	-	24,702	6,596	29,421	7,765	26,973	7,345	26,211	7,969	32,758	7,351	
March -	-	-	-	-	28,817	9,199	31,118	9,200	26,234	8,980	56,690	9,390	
April -	-	-	-	-	-	56,124	7,937	57,846	8,844	44,032	8,653	59,290	9,090
May -	-	-	-	-	-	37,591	7,342	28,853	7,478	34,710	10,771	45,607	8,882
June -	-	-	-	-	-	29,065	7,940	29,241	5,972	29,987	5,698	30,629	6,031
July -	-	-	-	-	-	38,979	5,915	32,731	6,848	37,454	8,513	43,235	11,236
August -	-	-	-	-	-	64,892	7,128	58,080	9,619	62,424	12,521	63,556	6,099
September -	-	-	-	-	-	30,403	7,880	33,377	8,196	41,826	7,913	40,468	10,204
October -	-	-	-	-	-	39,870	7,648	31,419	7,350	34,297	6,687	42,114	13,180
November -	-	-	-	-	-	32,600	8,083	25,604	9,912	29,699	7,823	35,480	7,707
December -	-	-	-	-	-	30,574	8,218	23,517	5,085	28,577	6,822	34,481	3,659
Total Number of Persons admitted to view the Natural History Collections (including students)	452,812	88,386	414,358	92,049	437,553	99,617	501,713	101,205	505,365	101,347	523,542	108,240	
	541,198	-	506,407	-	537,170	-	602,918	-	606,712	-	631,782	-	

NUMBER OF VISITS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF STUDY.

	1929		1930		1931		1932		1933		1934	
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Zoology (including Art Students)	-	-	13,281	14,661	-	13,005	-	11,840	-	13,828	-	15,019
Entomology	-	-	4,308	5,156	-	4,085	-	4,775	-	4,589	-	4,862
Geology	-	-	1,724	1,817	-	2,370	-	1,784	-	1,764	-	2,450
Mineralogy	-	-	409	367	-	412	-	341	-	423	-	661
Botany	-	-	3,683	4,595	-	4,119	-	4,260	-	4,210	-	3,842
General Library	-	-	576	533	-	744	-	538	-	545	-	849
Total	23,981	27,129	-	24,735	-	23,538	-	25,359	-	27,683	-	-

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY).

In the Birthday Honours, Dr. L. J. Spencer, F.R.S., was awarded the C.B.E., and Miss A. Lorrain Smith, unofficial scientific worker in the Department of Botany, the O.B.E.

The total number of visitors to the British Museum (Natural History) during 1934 was 631,782 as compared with 606,712 in 1933, both of which were larger numbers than in any previous year. The visitors on Sunday afternoons numbered 108,240 as against 101,347 last year. The total number of visitors attending the tours of the official Guide Lecturer during 1934 was 21,776, being an increase of 3,074 on the figure for 1933.

From the beginning of February lectures were given in the Museum on Sunday afternoons.

The Treasury agreed to the inclusion in the Estimates for 1935 of provision for the recruitment during the year of six additional Assistant Keepers and five subordinate posts, one of the new Assistant Keepers to be assigned to the Department of Mineralogy for work on the Collection of Deep Sea Deposits. They also sanctioned the addition to the Museum establishment of a second post of Guide Lecturer.

The contractors for the erection of the new Spirit Building Extension took possession of the site on 14 May, and those concerned with the erection of the first half of the New Western Block took over the site on 9 July. Good progress has been made with both buildings. A Sub-Committee of the Trustees, with Lord Macmillan as Chairman, has been appointed to examine the whole position as to accommodation, and to consider afresh the measures necessary to relieve the existing and impending congestion.

### *Exhibition Galleries.*

Minor rearrangements and renovations were made in the upper and lower Mammal Galleries. The mounting and suspension of four skeletons of large whales was completed in the new Whale Hall, and a fifth is in process of mounting. The Hall was temporarily opened to the public on two occasions during public holidays, and will be permanently opened as soon as the work remaining to be done is of a kind that can be carried on while the Hall is open. In the Bird Gallery the arrangement of the British series was completed. A coloured cast of a Komodo Monitor, which recently died in the Zoological Gardens, was placed in the Reptile Gallery, and the exhibit of marine Turtles was rearranged. Progress was made with the rearrangement of the Fish Gallery, and work was done on the exhibits of Coelenterates and Sponges. A very fine specimen of the giant Hydroid *Branchiocerianthus*, prepared by a new process, was placed in the Coral Gallery.

In the Department of Entomology work was confined to necessary maintenance. In view of the possibility that a considerable reorganization of the exhibited series may be undertaken in the near future no new exhibition work was put in hand.

Additions to the Geological Galleries included : a plaster cast of a complete skeleton of a bird, *Diatryma* ; Liassic fishes from Württemberg, Germany ; and an illuminated exhibit of a coal-ball, and of transparencies and collodion films of coal plants.

In the Mineral Gallery a valuable collection of gemstones, including 90 cut stones, many of large size and fine quality, bequeathed by Mr. T. B. Clarke-Thornhill, was displayed in a lighted case. A temporary exhibit of the first Rhodesian meteorite, a stone, weighing 49lb., which fell on the 7 March, 1934, in the Mangwendi native reserve, 40 miles east of Salisbury, was arranged in the Central Hall ; also an exhibit illustrating the formation and materials of pebbles, utilizing many specimens from the collection presented by Mr. E. J. Dunn. A further lot of unique material from the meteorite craters at Henbury, Central Australia, was exhibited in the Pavilion.

In the Department of Botany the cleansing and painting of all the exhibition cases was begun. An exhibit of three volumes of the Sloane Herbarium was shown for some months ; and special exhibitions of mosses, fungi, and alpine plants, were set up.

#### *Study Collections.*

The usual work of naming, labelling, registering, and incorporating accessions continued in all Departments. As in previous years, the Trustees are much indebted to numerous workers who gave their services voluntarily, many of whom worked continuously throughout the year. Research workers were given access to the collections in all Departments and were assisted in their investigations.

The rearrangement of the Ungulate collection was completed, and numerous accessions were named and incorporated in the sections of Birds, Reptiles, and Fishes, and in many groups of invertebrates.

In the Department of Entomology the work of sorting and incorporating accessions proceeded steadily, but the arrears show no signs of diminishing. Critical revisional work was directed to a number of special groups. In the Lepidoptera most progress was made with the Hesperiidae, Lymantriidae, Lasiocampidae, and Geometridae, but many smaller families and groups of genera received attention. In the Diptera the nematocerous families, especially in respect of the British fauna, the Bombyliidae, and the Calliphoridae received most attention. In the Hymenoptera the expansion and revision of the Tenthredinoidea were continued, the Formicoidea were kept up-to-date, and considerable advance was made with the Ichneumon idea. In the Coleoptera particular attention was paid to larvae and to the coleopterous fauna of high altitudes in East Africa and Abyssinia. In the neuropterous orders numerous investigations were made, and parts of the collections of Odonata and Neuroptera were expanded. In the Orthoptera attention was directed to work on special collections. In Hemiptera revisional work was done upon the Delphacidae, Gerridae and Derbidae, also the Aphididae and Coccidae. The long neglected collections of Mallophaga and Anoplura were partly overhauled and put in order.

In the Department of Geology work was done on the Pleistocene Mammalian faunas of East Africa, elephants from the Thames Valley, Karroo reptiles from South Africa, Amphibia from Nova Scotia, Devonian Ostracoderms, Eocene Fishes from Italy, British Tertiary Gastropoda and Lamellibranchia, Triassic Ammonoidea, and Upper Carboniferous plants. 112 thin sections of various fossils were made for the purpose of study.

In the Department of Mineralogy a further study was made of silica-glass from the Libyan Desert, and optical, crystallographic, and vapour-pressure work on scolecite was carried out in continuation of last year's work on the zeolites. Further reports were made on rocks from Nyasaland and Kenya Colony, and reports were made on rock collections from the New Hebrides, and from the British Solomon Islands.

During the past year 32,098 specimens were incorporated in the collections in the Department of Botany. The rearrangement of the General Herbarium was continued, and in the European Herbarium the Herbaria of Gadeceau, Granvick, Lacaita, A. H. Maude, Monteiro, and the Spanish collections of Sennen were incorporated and arranged for examination. In the British Herbarium the arrangement of the outstanding material into supplementary collections was continued, and the Herbaria of W. C. Barton, E. Cooper, and A. H. Maude, were incorporated in them.

#### *Congresses, etc.*

Dr. C. Tate Regan, F.R.S. and Dr. G. F. Herbert Smith represented the Museum at the Annual Conference of the Museums Association at Bristol in July, and Dr. Herbert Smith was present also as the representative of the Museum at the Eleventh Annual Conference of the Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux at Oxford in September. Mr. A. C. Townsend attended, as the Museum delegate, the 57th Annual Conference of the Library Association in London in September. Dr. C. Tate Regan represented the Museum at the opening of the Radcliffe (Science) Library, Oxford, by Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal in November.

The Director and several members of the scientific staff attended the meeting of the British Association at Aberdeen in September.

#### *Advisory and Economic Activities.*

Dr. C. Tate Regan, F.R.S. was invited by the Economic Advisory Council to serve on a committee to consider the protection of the fauna and flora of Asia. He was also appointed a member of the Advisory Committee on Fishery Research under the Development Commission.

In the Mammal section of the Department of Zoology a great deal of attention was given to economic matters, among which may be mentioned the spread of musk rats, nutria and other foreign mammals over various parts of the British Isles; the re-colonization of London and other towns by the Black Rat (*Rattus rattus*); questions relating to whaling and sealing; problems relating to the preservation of the larger mammals in Africa and in Asia; and to the activities of the fur and skin trades in all parts of the world. Commercial reptile skins submitted by the Advisory Council on Plant and Animal Products of the Imperial Institute were identified, and information concerning

them was given. Various questions relating to plumage and commercial matters were submitted by H.M. Customs and by private firms, and assistance was given to the Home Office in relation to the protection of British birds. The mite, *Liponyssus bacoti*, mentioned in the report for 1933 and suspected of being a carrier of typhus and of plague, was received from the City of London several times during 1934, its occurrence in every case being associated with the Black Rat.

In the Entomological Department the Clothes Moth pamphlet was revised and was largely rewritten, and advice was given on household insects. Much time was spent on the bed-bug campaign, in connexion with which many experiments were carried out in different London boroughs. Lectures were delivered, and exhibitions dealing with this problem were organized. Many entomological inquiries were answered, and others were passed on to those institutions best qualified to deal with them.

#### *Libraries.*

In the General Library 99 books, 922 volumes of periodicals and 15 maps were acquired by purchase and presentation during the year, and of the periodicals 50 were new to the library. The cataloguing of accessions for the whole Museum was carried out, 1,607 books and 28 maps being dealt with during the year.

Among the gifts received were :—

From the Hon. Mrs. M. Wood : a valuable walnut bookcase of fine workmanship, which was placed in the Librarian's room.

From Mr. E. Heron-Allen, F.R.S. : a first edition of a very rare book, Conrad Gesner's 'Thesaurus Evonymi Philiatri de Remediis Secretis' 1557.

From the Library of Congress : a photostat reproduction of the rare periodical *Isis*, published in one volume at Munich, 1850.

From Mr. H. J. Mouritz : the MS. note-book of his son, Mr. L. B. Mouritz, on the birds of Southern Rhodesia.

From Mrs. Greg : a miniature of Buffon.

From Mr. C. D. Soar : the original drawing by the late Mr. E. T. Reed of the cartoon of the late Sir E. Ray Lankester which appeared in 'Punch' on 24 May, 1905.

#### *Additions to the Collections.*

The number of acquisitions in the several Departments during the year, apart from specimens received too late for incorporation and from books, was as follows :—

Department.	Purchases.	Donations, Exchanges, etc.	Total.
Zoology ... ...	12,120	43,285	55,405
Entomology ... ...	72,069	440,166	512,235
Geology ... ...	1,391	7,479	8,870
Mineralogy ... ...	575	1,750	2,325
Botany ... ...	17,718	53,660	71,378
<b>Totals</b> ...	<b>103,873</b>	<b>546,340</b>	<b>650,213</b>

*Donations.*

The number of separate presents received during the year was 3,679, among the more interesting of them being :—

*Zoology.*

From the Royal College of Surgeons : the skeleton of a Greenland Whale, purchased by them in 1864 from Prof. Reinhardt, of Copenhagen.

From Sir Arnold Hodson, K.C.M.G. : the skull of a young elephant, and three additional skulls of a dwarf race of elephant from the Gola forest, Sierra Leone.

From the Right Honourable the Speaker of the House of Commons : an exceptionally fine specimen of a Russian bear, presented to Mr. Speaker Lowther (Lord Ullswater) in 1912 by the Municipality of Moscow.

From Mrs. H. C. Barnard : a mounted head of the Javan Rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros sondaicus*), shot by the late Mr. H. C. Barnard in Perak, in 1899.

From Mrs. Soames : a pair of very fine tusks of an East African elephant, shot by the late Colonel A. H. Coles, C.M.G., D.S.O.

From Lieutenant F. Mansell, R.N. : a finless porpoise (*Neomeris*), obtained some 550 miles up the Yangtse River.

From Mr. W. C. Campbell : twenty-six South African mammal skins and skulls.

From Prof. Max Weber : 25 specimens and 79 microscopic preparations of Polyzoa collected by the Siboga Expedition.

From the Imperial Institute of Entomology : a large collection of ticks, comprising about 12,000 specimens, representing 49 species, obtained by Dr. E. C. Lewis in Kenya Colony.

*Entomology.*

From Dr. G. Arnold : a very valuable collection of ants, containing upwards of 7,000 specimens, comprising examples of 653 species, and including 137 types of species and varieties described by Dr. Arnold.

*Geology.*

From Prof. H. H. Swinnerton : a valuable and unique collection of seventeen Lower Cretaceous Ammonites from Lincolnshire.

From Mr. W. Wickham King : a collection of 200 fishes from the Downtonian of Worcestershire.

*Mineralogy.*

From the Government of Southern Rhodesia : a meteoric stone, weighing 48lb. 11oz., being the fifth largest stone in the Museum.

From Mr. E. J. Dunn, F.G.S. : a unique series of 725 pebbles, collected by the donor since 1856, described and (144) figured in his book 'Pebbles' (Melbourne, 1911), and a series of 92 specimens of crocidolite, collected by him in 1872, in Orange River District, South Africa.

*Botany.*

From Archdeacon A. Hombersley : his herbarium of ferns, comprising about 500 specimens, forming the basis of his account of the ferns of Trinidad.

From Mr. W. C. Barton: the whole of his herbarium except the genus *Rubus*, consisting of about 20,500 sheets of British and a few Alpine plants, and including the herbaria of the Rev. H. J. Riddelsdell and Mrs. Foord Kelsey.

From Captain F. Kingdon-Ward: a further valuable collection of 750 Tibetan plants.

From Mr. James C. Cooper: his herbarium of about 2,000 specimens, including a large number from areas in London now built over, and including also examples of many alien species.

From Mr. N. Douglas Simpson: a valuable collection of 463 flowering plants and cryptogams from the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, and 37 flowering plants from Egypt.

From Mr. J. D. Snowden: his herbarium of 2,300 plants, collected in Uganda and the southern Sudan.

From the Council of the Hancock Museum, Newcastle-on-Tyne: 63 bundles, comprising upwards of 5,000 specimens of plants, being a part of the herbarium of P. S. Pallas.

From Sir J. L. Hanham: a collection of about 500 plants from West Greenland and 200 from Baffin Island, obtained on Mr. J. N. Wordie's expedition.

From Mrs. E. M. Day: a valuable collection of over 1,400 drawings of fungi, made by her husband, the late Mr. E. M. Day.

#### *Bequests, etc.*

The late Lieut.-Colonel C. G. Nurse bequeathed to the Museum a collection of 3,021 Indian insects, mainly Diptera, including type specimens of 14 species.

The Museum received by bequest 90 of the largest and choicest faceted stones (to the value of about £1,500), as well as uncut material, including a set of gem minerals, from the late Mr. Thomas Bryan Clarke-Thornhill's collection of gemstones.

The late Mr. C. B. Holman-Hunt left the Museum the sum of £400 to purchase from his sister, Mrs. Michael Joseph, the portrait of Sir Richard Owen, painted by his father, William Holman-Hunt.

Notification was received from the Trustees of the estate of the late Mrs. Mary Joicey, that the butterflies and moths selected for the Museum at the time of Mr. J. J. Joicey's death, from the collection formed by him, could be considered to have become the property of the Museum. The gift comprises 327,610 specimens, and includes 2,958 types.

Prof. A. C. Seward, F.R.S., has transferred from the Cambridge University Herbarium to the Museum, on loan, several valuable collections of plants, including Babington's Rubi, numbering about 14,000 sheets.

#### *Purchased.*

Important purchases included: four specimens of a rare gecko, *Palmatogecko rangei*; a collection of about 167 mammals, 553 bird skins, 250 fishes, and some reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates, from the Ashanti forest; a mounted specimen of the Huchen (fish); 480 beetles, all types and cotypes, from Tibet; 61 Archaeocyathinae from the Cambrian of Australia; a collection of about 500 slides of fossil plants in a cabinet, together with catalogue and notes and 200 uncatalogued

slides ; 7 rare fossil fishes, including an unique complete ceratodont from the Trias of New South Wales ; the residue of the Sowerby collection, comprising 2,122 fossil invertebrates, 2 fossil plants, and 25 mineralogical specimens ; a unique crystal of euclase from Tanganyika Territory ; one faceted olivine, weighing 20.35 grams, from Burma ; a water-worn crystal of clear topaz, weighing 29 lb., and 2 groups of quartz crystal from Brazil ; portions of a meteoric stone from South Australia, one piece weighing 3,750 grams ; and flowering plants from Turkey, North and South America, Borneo, and Tanganyika Territory.

### *Collecting Expeditions.*

The Trustees made contributions towards the expenses of a botanical expedition to Papua by Mr. C. E. Carr ; of a botanical and general collecting expedition to Bhutan and Tibet by Captain G. Sheriff and Mr. F. Ludlow ; of a collecting expedition to North-West New Guinea by Mr. Wilfred J. C. Frost ; of an expedition to the Siwa Oasis by Mr. J. Omer Cooper ; of a collecting expedition to the Downtonian of Podolia, Poland, by Dr. W. Zych ; and of expeditions to Southern Morocco and to the South of France by Mr. J. W. S. Pringle and Mr. M. E. Mosely respectively. They also contributed a further sum towards Miss L. E. Cheesman's entomological collecting expedition to Papua.

The Percy Sladen Zoological Expedition to the British Cameroons led by Mr. Ivan Sanderson resulted in the acquisition by the Museum of an important collection containing a series of some 500 Podogona, a very rare and interesting order of arachnids.

A collection comprising 542 bird skins, and smaller numbers of mammals, reptiles, amphibians, fishes, and arachnids was made by Mr. G. L. Bates in Arabia, with assistance from the Godman Exploration Fund.

As a result of Dr. Karl Jordan's expedition to Angola and South-West Africa, the Museum received a collection comprising 152 mammals, 9 birds, 647 reptiles, 280 fishes, 50 crustaceans, and a few other invertebrates ; as well as a collection of insects and 32 botanical specimens.

Mr. J. W. S. Pringle's expedition to Southern Morocco resulted in the acquisition by the Museum of a Barbary Macaque in spirit, 20 fishes, about 170 land and freshwater shells, and a few freshwater Polyzoa, leeches, oligochaetes, and coelenterates, as well as 1,300 insects.

A collection comprising one or two mammals, and 293 birds, representing about 102 species, was received from Mr. W. J. C. Frost's expedition to New Guinea.

Dr. L. J. Spencer, C.B.E., F.R.S., collected a large series of specimens from the Libyan Desert, while on an expedition organized by the Survey of Egypt to the Sand Sea in December.

During a visit to Malta and Palestine, for which she was given special leave, Miss D. M. A. Bate studied the material in the Malta Museum and collected valuable Pleistocene vertebrate remains. She also selected from the specimens collected at the Wady Mughara Caves a series very acceptable to the Museum.

A collection of 732 specimens was made by Mr. J. E. Dandy on an expedition organized by Mr. C. G. T. Morison to the Sudan. While in Khartoum he visited the Sudan Government Herbarium and the separate Herbarium formed by the Department of Agriculture and Forests.

Dr. F. W. Edwards and Dr. G. Taylor left England on 28 September on an expedition to explore the plants and insects of Mount Ruwenzori and other mountain regions in East Africa.

*Publications.*

The following new works were published during the year :—  
“Terra Nova” Expedition Reports.

Zoology, Vol. IV, No. 7. By C. W. Parsons.

Zoology, Vol. VII, No. 5. By N. Odhner.

Great Barrier Reef Report.

Vol. II, No. 6.

Vol. III, No. 9.

Vol. IV, Nos. 14 and 15.

Monograph of the Flatfishes.

Vol. I. By J. R. Norman.

Monograph of Frogs (Microhylidae). By H. W. Parker.

Stranded Cetacea Report, No. 11, 1927-33. By F. C. Fraser.

Diptera of Patagonia and South Chile.

Part VI, Fascicle 5.

Part VII, Fascicles 1-2.

Insects of Samoa.

Part II, Fascicle 4.

Part VI, Fascicle 8.

Generic Names of the Holarctic Butterflies. By A. F. Hemming.

Catalogue of Fossil Cephalopoda.

Part IV.

Guide to Fossil Mammals.

Guide to Fossil Birds, Reptiles, etc.

Economic Series.

No. 4A—British Mosquitoes and their Control. (Second Edition).

Instructions for Collectors, No. 11.—Fossils and Minerals.

(Fifth Edition).

The publication of the “Natural History Magazine” was continued.

In addition to the above publications, 284 reports and descriptive papers, based on the collections, by members of the staff and others, were published in scientific periodicals.

C. TATE REGAN,  
*Director.*

BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY).

1 April, 1935.

FOR OFFICIAL USE.



# BRITISH MUSEUM & BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY)

## Annual Report of the General Progress of the Museums for the year 1935

With a return of the Number of Persons  
admitted to the Museums, and a Statement  
of the Principal Objects added to the  
Collection

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1936

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PERSONS ADMITTED TO VIEW THE COLLECTIONS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM  
in each Year from 1930 to 1935, both Years included.

	1930			1931			1932			1933			1934			1935		
	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	
January ...	84,035	7,523	81,377	7,663	87,082	12,129	59,041	10,664	112,218	13,214	81,651	9,120						
February ...	76,459	8,939	66,140	8,889	77,578	11,582	54,188	8,927	78,728	13,633	72,855	10,301						
March ...	84,014	10,841	66,425	8,857	94,835	10,581	68,536	10,196	86,083	12,358	76,918	13,841						
April ...	103,765	8,776	90,469	9,202	79,357	10,662	77,714	11,835	94,606	15,094	87,145	10,355						
May ...	85,498	8,658	77,168	9,723	79,733	12,056	72,981	10,223	85,210	9,704	74,399	8,779						
June ...	82,796	7,649	75,182	6,094	73,776	8,269	82,940	11,246	74,625	8,466	86,385	12,317						
July ...	111,385	8,572	102,076	9,455	80,769	12,922	83,616	14,643	82,668	12,639	89,593	9,333						
August ...	125,904	10,783	135,999	13,402	95,219	8,614	98,808	10,694	100,392	13,257	101,271	9,824						
September ...	94,817	9,713	132,265	7,139	80,935	10,566	87,370	12,451	79,137	13,927	88,404	15,215						
October ...	93,578	8,064	122,490	6,718	72,661	14,378	88,806	15,862	89,240	11,157	92,767	12,911						
November ...	78,776	9,065	108,335	8,875	68,969	9,738	79,368	11,743	81,525	12,373	92,336	13,419						
December ...	76,515	5,514	91,876	8,892	63,414	7,702	85,077	14,855	80,223	12,372	88,824	15,017						
Total Number of Persons admitted to view the Gene- ral Collections	1,097,542	104,097	1,149,802	104,909	954,328	129,199	933,046	143,339	1,044,655	148,194	1,032,548	140,432						
	1,201,639	1,254,711	1,083,527	1,076,385			1,192,849						1,172,980					

## NUMBER OF VISITS OF STUDENTS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS

	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935
Reading Room	225,660	226,270	238,030	236,533	238,586	235,857
Newspaper Room ** and Hendon Repository	18,920	18,068	10,023	4,548	5,986	6,288
Map Room	1,066	997	1,124	1,423	1,722	1,697
State Paper Room	...	...	...	*3,976	10,321	8,977
Department of Manuscripts	...	...	12,488	11,528	12,761	12,677
Department of Oriental Printed Books and MSS.	...	...	5,255	5,513	4,740	4,131
Print Room	...	...	10,295	10,284	10,622	10,864
Egyptian and Assyrian Department	...	...	1,365	1,465	1,259	1,129
Greek and Roman Department	...	...	2,595	2,394	2,096	2,047
Galleries of Sculpture	...	...	659	1,398	1,196	1,396
British and Medieval Department	...	...	1,597	1,452	2,050	2,130
Department of Oriental Antiquities and of Ethnography†	...	...	3,222	2,648	2,494	2,501
Coin and Medal Room	...	...	2,416	2,455	3,122	2,692
Total	285,538	284,885	292,260	292,476	294,591	292,038

\* Opened June 1932. † In June 1933 the Department of Ceramics and Ethnography was reconstituted.

\*\* Closed 30th May, 1932.

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

*Appointment of Director.*

His Majesty the late King was pleased to accept the resignation of the Director and Principal Librarian, Sir George Hill, K.C.B., D.C.L., D.Litt., F.B.A., and to appoint in his stead Mr. Edgar John Forsdyke, M.A., F.S.A., Keeper of the Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities.

*Visitors.*

The number of visitors to the British Museum shewed a marked falling off in the first five months from the exceptional figures of the same period of 1934, which were inflated by the crowds who came to see the Codex Sinaiticus. For the last seven months of the year, however, there was a large total increase, and the figures for the whole year (1,172,980) were an approach to those for 1928 to 1931, when they rose steadily from 1,181,617 to 1,254,711, and higher than those for 1925-1927 and 1932-1933.

The visitors attending the free lecture tours of the Official Guide Lecturers were 21,597 (22,447 in 1934); and the visitors conducted by the authorised guides, for whose services moderate fees are payable, numbered 9,752.

*Students.*

The Reading Rooms of the Library, including the Colindale Newspaper Library, the Map Room and the State Paper Room, received 235,857 visits as compared with 255,271 in 1934. The service of books to the Reading Rooms continued to be carried on under difficulties caused by reconstruction work in progress; the number of volumes supplied to readers was 2,056,979 as compared with 2,220,964 in 1934.

40,388 Manuscripts and 3,301 Charters and Seals were issued in the Students' Room of the Department of Manuscripts. 25,758 volumes were consulted in the Department of Oriental Printed Books and Manuscripts.

There was a slight decrease in the total number of visits paid by students to the various Departments of the Museum.

*Photography and Casts.*

The number of books issued for photography was 3,720, and of MSS., 1,652. From other Departments of the Museum 3,420 objects were photographed.

A new price list of casts was issued during the year, and the production of both casts and new moulds was steady. In the Department of Coins and Medals 5,467 casts and 163 electrotypes of coins have been made, and 240 casts from other Departments in the moulders' shop of the Greek and Roman Department.

*Studio.*

The output of the Photographic Studio is shown in the following table:—

		1932	1933	1934	1935
Negatives	...	3,234	3,374	3,429	3,782
Prints	...	7,844	9,642	8,750	9,533
Lantern Slides	...	545	1,075	1,302	872
Photostats	...	24,938	21,695	22,993	24,424

*Loans of Lantern Slides.*

2,133 lantern slides were issued on loan (6,878 in 1934, 2,943 in 1933 and 2,834 in 1932), a return to more normal activity after the exceptional demand in 1934 for slides for illustrating lectures on the Codex Sinaiticus.

*Publications.*

The sales of publications were :—

	1932	1933	1934	1935
Catalogues and major publications	6,100	5,950	5,870	6,671
Guide Books ... ... ...	16,000	18,068	15,594	13,866
Postcards, monochrome and coloured ... ... ...	469,600	429,184	426,731	461,223
Reproductions ... ... ...	20,250	18,666	17,296	19,876

The decrease in the number of Guide Books sold may be accounted for by the reconstruction of certain galleries which has falsified their indications of the positions of objects.

The chief works issued during the year 1935 were :—

General Catalogue of Printed Books in the British Museum,

Vol. X Baon-Bart

Vol. XI Bart-Baye.

Vol. XII Baye-Belg.

Fragments of an Unknown Gospel.

Greek and Roman Portrait Sculpture.

Catalogue of the Hebrew and Samaritan MSS. Part IV.

Catalogue of Books printed in the XVth Century, Part VII (Italy, conclusion).

Mount Sinai MS. of the Bible, 4th edition.

New Gospel Fragments.

Ur Excavations : Texts. II. Archaic Texts.

British Museum Quarterly, five parts.

“ Greek and Roman Portrait Sculpture,” by R. P. Hinks, is the first of a projected new type of Guide Books, being small and well-illustrated handbooks to their subjects.

The proceeds of sales, including volumes of the new edition of the General Catalogue, amounted to £10,358 (£9,556 in 1934).

*Buildings.*

The reconstruction of the Northern Galleries, referred to in the Report for 1934, has in 1935 continued to impede access to the King Edward VII Galleries, though the lift from the Main Entrance Hall to the Upper Floor has greatly reduced the time and fatigue involved in visiting them. Provision has been made for opening the North Entrance in the course of 1936. A smaller improvement much appreciated by elderly and infirm

visitors has been the insertion of handrails flanking the Front Steps to the Entrance. The Northern Galleries will, it is expected, begin to be restored to public use early in 1937.

The Northern half of the Egyptian Sculpture Gallery has been re-arranged, projecting wings between the windows forming bays suitable for the exhibition of sculptures in relief.

#### *Temporary Exhibitions.*

Apart from the exhibitions in each Department of recent acquisitions a number of special temporary exhibitions of topical interest were, as usual, arranged. These included Maps of the British Dominions and Colonies, illustrating the growth of the British Empire during the past three centuries, writings by and about Maimonides, to celebrate the 800th anniversary of the Hebrew philosopher's birth, manuscripts and early editions of Lope de Vega, for the tercentenary of his death, and Welsh Poetry, especially in celebration of the poet Dafydd ap Gwilym, the date of whose birth has been conjecturally fixed at 1335.

In the Department of British and Medieval Antiquities a succession of exhibitions of finds made during recent excavations were held at the head of the Main Staircase. These included objects from Yorkshire Long Barrows, the long barrow at Skendleby, Lincs., excavated by Mr. C. W. Phillips, the Fenland Research Association's excavations and the finds of the Roman period from the site of the Bank of England.

In the Department of Manuscripts some MS., generally of topical interest, changed weekly, has been shewn in the Grenville Room, near the Main Entrance Hall. In addition, the deaths of His late Majesty King George V and Mr. Rudyard Kipling were marked by the temporary exhibition of the King's "Message to his People" on recovery from illness in 1929, and of the autographs of "Kim" and a volume of Kipling's poems.

The Codex Sinaiticus has been bound and is on exhibition, together with the Codex Alexandrinus, in a special fireproof show-case, presented by the Chatwood Safe Co. Ltd.

#### *Representation at Congresses.*

Dr. H. J. Plenderleith represented the Trustees at the 46th Annual Conference of the Museums Association at Brussels, and, with Mr. Basil Gray, at the Persian Congress and Exhibition at Leningrad; Mr. R. L. Hobson visited China and Japan as a member of the Chinese Exhibition Committee; the Museum was represented by Dr. H. Thomas and Mr. A. Esdaile at the Second International Congress of Libraries and Bibliography at Madrid and Barcelona; by Dr. H. I. Bell at the International Congress of Papyrology at Florence; Mr. T. D. Kendrick delivered the Rask Örsted Lectures at Copenhagen, and Dr. R. Flower the Lowell Lectures at Boston, U.S.A.

#### *Acquisitions.*

The total number of objects added to the collections in 1935 was 413,338, more by 21,769 than in 1934, and by 3,959 than in 1933.

The figures for the several Departments were as follows :—

Printed Books :		1934	1935
Books and Pamphlets	...	37,843	36,096
Serials and Parts of Volumes	...	77,925	82,478
Maps and Atlases	...	1,347	1,070
Music	...	8,934	9,768
Newspapers (single numbers)	...	243,038	264,501
Miscellaneous	...	3,656	3,495
Manuscripts	...	218	1,070
Oriental Printed Books and M.S.S.	...	2,350	2,869
Prints and Drawings	...	1,712	1,911
Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities	...	1,104	1,087
Greek and Roman Antiquities	...	73	85
British and Medieval Antiquities	...	528	2,285
Oriental Antiquities and Ethnography	...	1,347	573
Series of objects	...	53	44
Coins and Medals	...	1,441	6,006
		381,569	413,338

Full descriptions of the more important objects acquired during the year may be found as usual in the British Museum Quarterly. The National Art-Collections Fund, the Friends of the National Libraries, the Contemporary Art Society, and the Christy Trustees have again added to the collections of the Museum.

#### *Department of Printed Books.*

The chief acquisitions were :—

Among Incunabula : Werner Rolewinck, *Fasciculus temporum*, Conrad Winters, Cologne, 1476; Leonardus Aretinus [or rather, Buonaccorso de Montemagno], *De nobilitate controversia* [J. A. de Honate, Milan, c. 1478]; Manilius, *Astronomicon cum commento Laurentii Bonincontrii*, Rome, 1484.

In addition to the above, acquired by purchase, a collection of 54 books, 29 of the 15th and 25 of the 16th century, have been presented by Sir Charles Sherrington, O.M.; the most noteworthy are : Joannes de Aragonia, *Orationes duæ*, Joannes Philippus de Lignamine, Rome, 1471; Ambrosius, *De officiis* [Rome, c. 1473]; Arnaldus de Villanova, *De arte cognoscendi venena*, Christoph Valdarfer, Milan, 1475; Troilus Malvetius, *De sorte* [Bologna, c. 1480].

Other gifts of incunabula have included :—

Luigi Pulci, *Il Driadeo*, Francesco di Dino, Florence, 1489; Regula beatissimi Benedicti, Montserrat, 1499; both presented by Mr. Arthur Gimson : and Petrarch, *Canzoniere*, Bartholomæus de Zanis, Venice, 1500; and Aeneas Sylvius [Pope Pius II], *De curialium miseria* [Eucharius Silber, Rome, c. 1500]; both presented by Sir George Hill, K.C.B.

Mr. Arthur Gimson has also presented a number of English books of the 16th century, mostly legal, of which the most noteworthy are :— Statutes of King Henry VII, Richard Pynson, London, [c. 1505]; an Indulgence for the benefit of contributors to the funds of the Order of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, issued by William Brevie and John Byrd

in England for the General of the Order [Richard Pynson ? London, 1516] : A true Reporte of the taking of the great towne and Castell of Polotzko, by the King of Polonia [London], 1579; and Claudius Hollyband, The French Schoole-Maister, London, 1628.

The following gifts may also be noted :—

Memorable Conceits of divers noble and famous personages of Christendome of this our moderne time, London, 1602, presented by Sir Leicester Harmsworth, Bart.; and, William Bullein, a dialogue both pleasant and pietifull, wherein is a godly regimete against the fever Pestilence, John Kingston, London, 1564, presented by Mr. W. A. Marsden.

Among foreign books of the 16th century there have been acquired by purchase :—

La fondation faicte par mes Seigneur et Dame, les Duc and Duchesse de Nivernois, pour marier doresnavant par chacun an jusques au nombre de soixante pauvres filles [Paris] 1588; Enchiridion ecclesie Pallantine, Arnaldo Guillén de Brocar, Logroño, 1508. In addition to these the following have been presented : by the Friends of the National Libraries, the exceedingly rare first edition of Erasmus, *Moriæ encomium*, Gilles de Gourmont [Paris, 1511]; by Sir George Hill, K.C.B., through the Friends of the National Libraries, Pomponius Gauricus, *De sculptura*, Florence, 1504; and, Sebastiano Erizzo, *Discorso sopra le medaglie degli antichi*, Venice [c. 1572]; by Mr. Arthur Gimson, Philippe de Commynes, *Cronique et histoire*, Antoine Couteau for Galliot Du Pré, Paris, 1525; Roberto de Nola, *Libro de guisados manjares y potages intitulado livro de cozina*, Miguel de Eguia, Logroño, 1529; Manuel Diaz, *Libro de Albeyteria*, Juan de Junta, Burgos, 1530; and, Ludovico Ariosto, *Orlando Furioso*, Gabriel Giolito, Venice, 1545.

Among later books :—

A collection of nearly ninety editions (mostly first editions) of works by Sir W. S. Gilbert, presented by Mr. Charles P. Johnson, J.P.; a large collection of works from the library of Herbert Spencer, including many "working copies" of his own writings, presented by the Herbert Spencer Trustees; a collection of Russian newspapers, ranging from 1924 to 1933, presented by Dr. Edouard Luboff.

Among bookbindings :—

William Morris, *The Story of the Glittering Plain*, Kelmscott Press, in a fine decorative binding by G. T. Bagguley, of Newcastle-under-Lyme, with doublures in the "Sutherland" style after designs by Walter Crane, presented by Mr. G. T. Bagguley.

#### *Manuscripts.*

The purchase, completed in 1934, of the Codex Sinaiticus left the department with only the income from certain endowments; but fortunately gifts were numerous. The chief acquisitions were :—

Among the medieval MSS.: portions of two MSS. already in the Museum, viz. eight vellum leaves from Thomas de Eccleston's "De Adventu Minorum in Anglia," forming part of Cotton MS. Nero A. ix, and sixty-eight leaves of a French 15th century Book of Hours, forming part of Add. MS. 25695 and completing the volume, presented by Mrs. Godfrey and Mrs. Nicholson; the Records of the Company of the Merchants of the Staple of England, comprising six volumes and a charter, presented by the

surviving members of the Company, through Mr. G. T. Legg ; a Chartulary of the Priory or Hospital of Little Wymondley, co. Herts., mid 13th century, presented by the Friends of the National Libraries ; a Chartulary of Shaftesbury Abbey, co. Dorset, 15th century ; and a Terrier of Glastonbury Abbey, 1514-17.

Among modern autograph works and letters, the papers of Samuel Butler, presented by the literary executors, Dr. Geoffrey Keynes and Mr. Brian Hill. Other acquisitions under this heading include the MS. of Herbert Spencer's 'Social Statics,' presented by the Herbert Spencer Trustees ; and the autograph and signed MS. of an article by W. E. Gladstone on Tennyson's "Locksley Hall Sixty Years After," presented by Mr. Gabriel Wells. Musical MSS. include the autograph MS. of Rossini's 'Stabat Mater,' presented by Mr. Julian G. Lousada, in memory of Mme. Christine Nilsson. An important deposit has also been received from the British Broadcasting Corporation in the shape of the autograph MS. of the unfinished Third Symphony of the late Sir Edward Elgar, O.M., on indefinite loan.

Collections of papers and historical documents :—the Gladstone Papers, in 750 volumes, have been incorporated in accordance with the deed of gift of 14th December, 1929. Other acquisitions include four letters, etc., of Robert Clive, addressed to Robert Orme, three presented by the Friends of the National Libraries and the fourth by Lieut.-General Sir Gerald F. Ellison, G.C.B. ; the papers of Lieut.-General John Campbell, 4th Earl of Loudoun, in the campaign of 1762-3, presented by the Friends of the National Libraries ; and documents relating to the early history of the British settlement on Tristan da Cunha, presented by the late Douglas M. Gane and Mr. Ernest F. Gates.

Charters and Rolls, and Seals. Acquisitions under this heading include a grant by Ralph de Sudeley of Toddington, co. Glouc., in exchange for 'Dercet' (Burton-Dassett, co. Warw.), circa 1160, with seal, presented by Mr. G. Murray Andrews, Mr. H. Carson Andrews, Mr. M. F. Maclean, and Miss Violet Maclean ; and a grant by Humphrey de Bohun, 13th century, presented anonymously.

#### *Oriental Printed Books and Manuscripts.*

Arabic MSS. : A Synaxarium of the Eastern Church, largely of the 11th century ; forty-four makālāt or expositions of St. Matthew's Gospel, with homilies thereupon, largely of the 12th century ; Bahr al-fawā'id, a commentary by al-Kātibī on his 'Ain al-kawā'id, A.H. 680 ; Sharh 'uyūn kitāb Sibawaih, a commentary by Abu Naṣr Hārūn b. Mūsa al-Kurtubī on Sibawaih's manual of grammar, 12th or 13th century ; Al-Tadkār fi afdal il-adkār, by Muḥ. Ibn Farāḥ al-Anṣārī al-Kurtubī on the revelation and qualities of the Kur'ān, etc., 14th century.

Persian MS. : Dīvān of Shams i Tabrīz, probably 15th century.

Chinese MSS. : Yung lo ta tien, the encyclopaedia of the Emperor Yung-lo ; pts. 15,955-56, 16th century ; presented by Mrs. Couling.

Chinese Printed Books : Fo shuo ta pao fu mu ên ching, an apocryphal Sūtra on the requital of parents' kindness. Printed from wooden blocks, with many woodcuts, 15th century. Ssu k'u ch'uan shu, a collection of reprints of rare books, 1934-35 ; presented by the National Central Library of Nanking.

### *Prints and Drawings.*

Among drawings : landscape by John Constable, from the Heseltine Collection, presented by Mr. Alfred Jowett; portrait of Fräulein Zollner, by Ambrose McEvoy, presented by a group of subscribers; a number of water-colours by the testator and other artists, bequeathed by the late A. W. Rich; twelve drawings and water-colours by Sir Francis Seymour Haden, presented by Mrs. H. N. Harrington and Mr. H. N. Harrington, Jun.; attributed to Rembrandt, Study of a woman, possibly Saskia, seated, presented by Mr. I. de Bruijn; J. B. Greuze, two figure studies, one presented, the other purchased with the aid of a donation from Mr. I. de Bruijn; J. B. C. Corot, Portrait of a woman, and Paul Cézanne, Study for "l'Amour en Plâtre," presented by the National Art-Collections Fund; Edouard Manet, portrait study of Berthe Morisot, purchased with the aid of a donation from Mr. Louis Clarke; two large anonymous Florentine drawings of the 15th century, with stencilled background, of angels holding candlesticks; G. B. Tiepolo, the death of a Capuchin Monk; and Sebastiano del Piombo, a study for the Visitation in Sta Maria della Pace, Rome, presented by Mr. Victor Koch.

*Engravings* ; the collection of 206 altered plates, formed by the late Marquess of Sligo, presented by the 7th Marquess of Sligo in memory of his father; W. Blake, "the Child of Nature" and "the Child of Art," hitherto undescribed, purchased with the aid of a donation from Mr. C. H. St. J. Hornby; and twenty-five lithographed portraits of notabilities at Geneva by E. X. Kapp, presented by Mr. S. Courtauld, Sir Michael Sadler and an anonymous donor.

### *Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities.*

Egyptian : a glass dog, from an inlaid panel of a box, probably of the XXVIth Dynasty; and 131 ostrace, inscribed in Demotic, Coptic and Greek, presented by Sir Robert Mond.

Babylonian : a very remarkable agate frog of the time of the Agade dynasty, the natural markings of the stone being used to emphasize the design.

From Western Asia : a valuable collection of pottery and small antiquities from the earliest civilized settlement to about 1500 B.C. from the excavations at Tal Chager Bazar in N. Syria, which were supported by the British School of Archaeology in Iraq, Mr. M. E. L. Mallowan, Sir Charles Marston, Mr. A. L. Reckitt and public subscriptions, and directed by Mr. Mallowan under the auspices of the Trustees.

### *Greek and Roman Antiquities.*

The chief acquisitions were nearly all small early Greek antiquities; collections of such were presented by Miss Debenham (from Kerch) and by Mrs. Clare Parsons; an Etruscan gold fibula, c. 600 B.C., was presented by Prof. J. D. Beazley; among purchases may be mentioned a Corinthian aryballos or oil-bottle, c. 600 B.C., with a design of Herakles shooting an arrow at a Centaur; and another oil-bottle, Attic, of the beginning of the 4th century, modelled in the form of a young man.

### *British and Medieval Antiquities.*

Many excavators or site owners presented representative collections of their finds; chief among these were a large series of flint implements, flakes and cores from the Clacton palaeolithic industry, presented by Miss Mary Nichol and Mr. K. P. Oakley, F.G.S.; another, collected from

the surface in the Banstead and Burgh Heath districts in Surrey, by Mr. W. Wright, presented by Dr. C. Davies Sherborn; Neolithic pottery, implements and other objects from the Long Barrow called Giants' Hills, Skendleby, Lincs., together with documents illustrating the excavation by Mr. C. W. Phillips, F.S.A., presented by Mr. W. Gainsford; microlithic implements and cores from Central India, presented by Major D. H. Gordon; advanced palæolithic and later remains from the Libyan desert in the N.W. Sudan, presented by Mr. W. Kennedy Shaw, the leader of the Expedition which collected them.

Roman Britain was represented by the gift by the Governor and Company of the Bank of England of a collection of finds made from the peat of the Walbrook under the Bank, and by an inscribed stone and others forming part of the sepulchral monument of the Roman procurator Julius Classicianus, of which other stones were already in the Museum, from a bastion of the Roman wall of London, presented by the London Passenger Transport Board.

#### *Oriental Antiquities and Ethnography.*

When, towards the end of 1934, Mr. George Eumorfopoulos offered his celebrated collection of Chinese antiquities, which has been valued at a quarter of a million, for £100,000, the Trustees felt that, in spite of the recent strain of purchasing the Codex Sinaiticus, they could not decline to make the effort. The purchase was accordingly arranged jointly with the Victoria and Albert Museum; a portion valued at rather less than half the whole was acquired at once by using all the funds available from the Museum's own reserve and from the bequest of the late Mr. J. R. Vallentin, and by the aid of generous donations from friends, the chief of which were those of Sir Percival David, the National Art-Collections Fund, the Universities' China Committee, the Goldsmiths' Company, and a loan of £10,000 at the nominal interest of 1 per cent. by the Bank of England, since paid off. The balance has been arranged to be paid for in five annual instalments. Meanwhile not even that part of the collection actually acquired was incorporated, in order that a selection might be included in the Exhibition of Chinese Art at Burlington House, and that the whole might at the close of that exhibition be shewn at the Victoria and Albert Museum.

The Department was in consequence almost wholly dependent on gifts, which fortunately were numerous. The most important were:—

Ceramics: a Lambeth delft bust of Charles I inscribed E.C., 1679, presented by Sir Bernard Eckstein, Bart.; a pair of Sèvres vases with "jewel" decoration, 1781, bequeathed by the late Mr. C. B. O. Clarke.

Prints and Drawings: 120 Indian playing cards in a painted box, Rajput School (17th century), presented by Mr. J. C. French; a set of eight Japanese woodcut views of Yedo by Hokusai, presented by Mr. O. C. Raphael; and thirteen Japanese woodcuts by Utamaro and other masters, presented by Mr. R. N. Shaw in succession to his many previous gifts of Japanese woodcuts.

Ethnography: large series from Italian Somaliland and from the Beni Amer and Hadendoa tribes of the Red Sea Province, Sudan, presented by Major P. H. G. and Miss Powell-Cotton; stone arrow heads from Bent County, Colorado, presented by the citizens of Las Animas; and specimen collected by Alfred Russell Wallace between 1848 and 1859

from the Amazon and from Melanesia and Dutch New Guinea, presented by Mr. W. G. Wallace and Miss Wallace ; a new type of acquisition, of considerable scientific interest, was inaugurated by the gift by Mr. H. C. Balfour of a film of the dances, ceremonies and crafts of the Worora tribe in Western Australia.

The Christy Trustees, as in previous years, made some valuable gifts : of these the most important was a wooden stepped grave-post, surmounted by a carved wooden figure, from the Admiralty Islands.

#### *Coins and Medals.*

The year was made remarkable by the accession of the great collection of English coins from Edward I to the present day, formed and bequeathed by the late Mr. T. B. Clarke-Thornhill. The coins number 1,500 gold and 5,000 silver pieces, and in certain parts more than doubles the already existing Museum collection. For the period before that covered by the Clarke-Thornhill collection the Museum collection is much strengthened by the bequest by the late Mr. T. G. Barnett of his collection of over 1,000 Ancient British and Anglo-Saxon Coins. Among other coins added may be mentioned a heavy noble of Edward IV, one of the only three known, presented in memory of the late Dr. G. C. Brooke, of the Department, by his friends. Treasure Trove continued to fill gaps, 25 gold pieces of James I and Charles I coming from a find at Muckleford.

#### *Laboratory.*

Chemical analysis has been applied to ancient Chinese papers from Tun Huang, and certain drawings recognised thereby as forgeries. Insecticides have been investigated, with special view to the Death Watch Beetle. Experiments have been made in cleaning old wax, especially in connexion with the Westminster Effigies ; and (with the aid of Messrs. Schall & Son) tests were evolved by which it is possible to tell the difference between ancient and modern-worked metal.

The chief piece of restoration carried out in the laboratory during the year was that of the 12th century Irish reliquary, the Shrine of St. Manchan.

Training has been given not only to members of the British Museum staff, but also to officers of other museums.

GEORGE HILL,

*Director and Principal Librarian.*

BRITISH MUSEUM,  
April, 1936.

PERSONS ADMITTED TO VIEW THE COLLECTIONS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY),  
in each Year from 1930 to 1935, both years included

	1930		1931		1932		1933		1934		1935	
	Week-day.	Sun-day.										
January ...	34,873	6,687	27,526	7,700	41,210	8,195	44,815	6,280	45,974	9,696	38,250	8,254
February ...	29,421	7,765	26,973	7,345	26,211	7,969	32,758	7,351	32,120	10,926	34,316	10,540
March ...	31,118	9,200	26,234	8,980	56,690	9,390	34,360	8,504	38,807	10,629	35,014	11,690
April ...	56,124	7,937	57,846	8,444	44,032	8,653	59,290	9,090	70,354	10,251	58,960	9,468
May ...	28,853	7,478	34,710	10,771	45,697	8,882	34,861	8,347	41,290	5,411	33,825	5,793
June ...	29,241	5,972	29,987	5,698	30,629	6,031	38,633	12,028	33,763	4,910	56,277	7,915
July ...	32,731	6,848	37,454	8,513	43,235	11,236	38,844	8,098	36,713	7,103	38,746	4,960
August ...	58,080	9,619	62,424	12,521	63,556	6,099	70,136	6,005	77,870	8,955	63,479	7,719
September ...	33,377	8,196	41,826	7,913	38,468	10,204	42,633	7,661	40,880	10,243	49,328	14,782
October ...	31,419	7,350	34,297	6,687	42,114	13,180	43,886	11,986	40,578	9,395	51,709	12,304
November ...	25,604	9,912	29,699	7,823	35,480	7,707	34,130	7,728	33,152	9,081	50,052	15,570
December ...	23,517	5,085	28,577	6,822	34,481	3,659	31,019	8,269	32,041	11,640	35,849	11,347
Total Number of Persons admitted to view the Natural History Collections (including students) ...	414,358	92,049	437,553	99,617	501,713	101,205	505,365	101,347	523,542	108,240	545,805	120,342
	506,407	537,170		602,918		606,712		631,782		631,782		666,147
NUMBER OF VISITS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF STUDY.												
	1930		1931		1932		1933		1934		1935	
Zoology (including Art Students)	14,661		13,005		11,840		13,828		15,019		14,334	
Entomology ...	5,156		4,085		4,775		4,589		4,862		5,160	
Geology ...	1,817		2,370		1,784		1,764		2,450		2,113	
Mineralogy ...	367		412		341		423		661		761	
Botany ...	4,595		4,119		4,260		4,210		3,842		3,904	
General Library ...	533		744		538		545		849		975	
Total ...	27,129		24,735		23,538		25,359		27,683		27,247	

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY).

The King's Silver Jubilee Medal was bestowed upon Dr. C. Tate Regan, F.R.S., Dr. W. T. Calman, F.R.S., and Capt. T. J. Dudley, Superintendent, and in the Birthday Honours list Dr. Calman received a Companionship of the Bath.

The total number of visitors to the British Museum (Natural History) during 1935 was 666,147 as compared with 631,782 in 1934, which was a larger number than in any previous year. Thus for the fourth year in succession the attendance has exceeded all previous records. The visitors on Sunday afternoons numbered 120,342 as against 108,240 last year. The total number of visitors attending the tours of the official Guide-Lecturers during 1935 was 24,890, being an increase of 3,114 on the figure for 1934.

The Museum began during the autumn to co-operate with the British Broadcasting Corporation in connexion with the Biology Course broadcast for schools, arrangements being made for the lectures to be received in the Board Room for the benefit of such school parties as desired to attend. The broadcast is followed by tours conducted by a Guide-Lecturer, who demonstrates exhibits illustrating the lectures.

The Treasury agreed to the inclusion in the estimates for 1936 of provision for the recruitment of five additional Assistant Keepers, four Technical Assistants (First Class), and seven subordinate posts.

The Museum took over from H.M. Office of Works in December the first half of the new Western Block and the final section of the New Spirit Building.

### *Exhibition Galleries.*

The portrait of Sir Richard Owen, painted by William Holman-Hunt in 1881, was hung on a pier in the Central Hall near the main entrance, pending the finding of a more suitable permanent position for it.

The Whale Hall was opened to the public at the beginning of the year, but for the last three months a portion of the Hall was set aside for an exhibition of photographs of wild mammals and birds, organised by the proprietors of "Country Life." This exhibition attracted much attention. Progress was made in the arrangement of exhibits in the Hall, and two large skeletons, of the Greenland Whale and the Pacific Grey Whale, were placed in position. For exhibition in the British Pavilion specimens of pine martens, stoats, and weasels were dyed for the purpose of overcoming the fading which results from exposure to daylight. In the Lower Mammal Gallery considerable progress was made in re-arranging the exhibits, and in providing new ground-work for the cases. The re-arrangement of the exhibits of Coelenterata and sponges was carried on, and in the other zoological galleries minor changes and replacements were made.

In the Department of Entomology no changes were made in the exhibited series during the year.

Additions to the Geological Galleries included a large evolutionary series of the remarkable Lamellibranch group, the Rudists. Considerable progress was made in the re-arrangement of the Fossil Fish Gallery, and the Diorama of Upper Old Red Sandstone fishes was completed.

The more important of the specimens acquired in the Department of Minerals were temporarily exhibited in the recent additions case. The exhibit illustrating the fluorescence of certain minerals in ultra-violet light was re-arranged, and a set of silicon-oxygen framework models was placed on exhibition, together with a series of close-packed structure models, constructed in the Department. A special exhibit of Libyan Desert glass, etc., was made for the meeting of the Mineralogical Society in June.

In the Department of Botany no alteration was made in the exhibition series. The cleaning and painting of the exhibition cases was continued.

#### *Study Collections.*

The usual work of naming, labelling, registering, and incorporating accessions continued in all Departments. As in previous years, the Trustees were much indebted to numerous workers who gave their services voluntarily, many of whom worked continuously throughout the year. Research workers were given access to the collections in all Departments, and were assisted in their investigations.

In several sections of the Department of Zoology a great deal of time was taken up in planning and making preparations for the re-arrangements required by the approaching occupation of the new buildings. This to some extent interfered with the research work of the staff and of visiting investigators, but much revisionary work, and consequent re-arrangement of the collections, was done, including work on the Lacertilian genus *Lygosoma*, sub-antarctic fishes collected by the "Discovery," African Cichlid fishes, and the Polychaeta of the "Discovery" Expedition. The appointment of an Assistant Keeper to take charge of Echinoderms enabled a fresh beginning to be made with work on this group, which had been neglected for a great many years.

In the Department of Entomology the usual routine work proceeded steadily. In the Diptera the Micropezidæ and Ephydridæ were re-arranged, and many small collections were worked through. In the Hymenoptera the Symphyta and Parasitica received most attention. In the Coleoptera work on larvæ was continued, and many groups were revised. In the Lepidoptera the families Xyloryctidæ, Stenomidæ, and Hepialidæ were re-arranged. In the Neuropterous series a revision of the Tasmanian caddis-flies was completed, and the Plecoptera collection was expanded. In the Hemiptera sections of the Coreidæ and Jassidæ were expanded, and considerable revision of the Coccidæ and Psyllidæ was effected; particular attention was also paid to the termites. Considerable progress was made with the card indexes.

In the Department of Geology much work was done on Pleistocene mammals from East Africa, Palæozoic Gastropoda and Lamellibranchia, chalk Mollusca and Brachiopoda, Palæozoic corals, and Tertiary plants. 93 thin sections of various fossils were made for purposes of study.

In the Department of Mineralogy a discovery of some importance to egyptologists, that scarabs were composed of baked talc, was made by X-ray methods. A new palladium arsenide from Minas Geraes, Brazil, was established by X-ray examination and chemical analysis, and certain deep-sea crystals were found by similar means to be identical with renal calcium oxalate crystals. X-ray photographs of the yellow incrustation on bismuthinite, formerly labelled bismutite, showed it to be cubic bismuth oxide. Investigations were carried out on the so-called tantalite crystals from Uganda, and Mr. Arthur Champion's comprehensive collection of rocks from Northern Turkana, Kenya Colony, was further examined. The curious mineral pharmaceutical series in the Sir Hans Sloane collection was examined, and the investigation of the origin of ancient Roman marbles and other stones was continued.

The work in the Department of Botany during the past year consisted largely in the naming and incorporation of collections and the re-arrangement of specimens in accordance with recent monographs. Collections from the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, the Gulf of Guinea, Ruwenzori, Tibet, Greenland, and Siam were studied, and monographic investigations of the Podostemaceæ, and of *Combretum*, *Polygonum*, *Magnolia* and *Selaginella* were continued.

#### *Congresses, etc.*

The Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, K.T., F.R.S., and Mr. J. Ramsbottom, O.B.E., represented the Trustees at the celebrations of the tercentenary of the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, held in Paris in June, when an illuminated address from the Trustees and staff of the British Museum (Natural History) was presented. Dr. G. F. Herbert Smith and Dr. W. T. Calman, C.B., F.R.S., attended, as representatives of the Museum, the Annual Conference of the Museums Association in Brussels in July. Dr. H. D. Thomas attended the Annual Conference of the South Eastern Union of Scientific Societies at Bournemouth in June; Mr. A. C. Townsend was the Museum delegate at the Annual Conference of the Library Association at Manchester in September, and at the Annual Conference of the Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux at Cambridge in the same month. Dr. W. T. Calman and Mr. N. D. Riley represented His Majesty's Government and the Trustees at the Twelfth International Congress of Zoology at Lisbon, and Mr. Riley also at the Sixth International Entomological Congress at Madrid, both in September. Mr. J. Ramsbottom represented the Museum and was also a Government delegate at the Sixth International Botanical Congress at Amsterdam in September.

The Director and several members of the scientific staff attended the meeting of the British Association at Norwich in September.

#### *Advisory and Economic Activities.*

Mr. J. Ramsbottom, O.B.E., was invited to serve as a British representative on an "International Committee" formed to help in the management of the Centraalbureau von Schimmelcultures, and Mr. N. B. Kinnear was appointed a member of the Estates Committee of the National Trust, to advise on natural history matters.

In the Department of Zoology advice or assistance was given to various Government Departments, public bodies, companies, and individuals regarding rats, mice, bats, and introduced mammals in Britain. Inquiries concerning leather, fur, wool, etc., were dealt with, and matters relating to the protection or control of seals, to whaling, and to big game in Africa and Asia also received much attention. In connexion with the proposed Air Force Range on the Chesil Bank, Mr. N. B. Kinnear accompanied a deputation, arranged by the Council for the Preservation of Rural England, to see aerial bombing and firing at Wisbech. Suggestions, which it is hoped will lead to a more precise knowledge of the status of the individual species concerned, were made to the Imperial Institute with regard to the collection of statistics of the trade in reptile skins, and information concerning certain vipers which were an active menace to men engaged in constructional work was sent to the Medical Officer of the Royal Air Force, Aden. The importance of *Liponyssus bacoti*, the rat mite, was still evident, and an effort was made to get into touch with other workers in this field and with Public Health authorities. Considerable work was also involved in revising the pamphlet on "Species of Arachnida and Myriapoda injurious to Man"; inquiries were answered concerning the Molluscan vectors of *Schistosoma*, the destruction of slugs, the activities of marine-boring Mollusca, and worms of economic importance.

In the Department of Entomology advice was given with regard to many household, commercial, and agricultural pests, and work in connexion with the bed-bug campaign was energetically continued in co-operation with the Ministry of Health and the Medical Research Council.

#### *Libraries.*

In the General Library a further transference of books was made from the main gallery to the iron gallery and the basement, only those volumes of periodicals dated since 1911 being now available in the main gallery and in the Central Hall bay outside the General Library door.

During the year 118 books, 1,636 volumes of periodicals, and 28 maps were acquired by purchase and presentation, and of the periodicals 60 were new to the library. The cataloguing of accessions for the whole Museum was carried out in the General Library, 1,622 books and 41 maps being dealt with during 1935.

Among the gifts received were:—

From the Managing Secretary of the Indian Science Congress: twenty-one volumes of the 'Proceedings of the Congress,' 1914-34.

From the National Research Council, Ottawa: five volumes of the 'Proceedings of the Fifth Pacific Science Congress, held in Canada, 1934.'

From Mr. C. L. Cannon, Yale University Library: the rare Volume I, Part 1, 1810, of the 'Memoirs of the Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences.'

From the Académie Malgache: eleven volumes of its 'Bulletin' and three of its 'Mémoires,' completing the set in this Library.

From the Board of Editors, 'Current Science,' Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore: four volumes of 'Current Science,' 1932-35.

From the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft: sixteen volumes of the 'Scientific results of the German Expedition to the Atlantic in the Meteor,' 1925-27.

*Additions to the Collections.*

The number of acquisitions in the several Departments during the year, apart from specimens received too late for incorporation and from books, was as follows :—

Department.	Purchases.	Donations, Exchanges, etc.	Total.
Zoology ... ...	2,662	31,954	34,616
Entomology ... ...	61,601	152,023	213,624
Geology ... ...	9,658	16,632	26,290
Mineralogy ... ...	372	1,572	1,944
Botany ... ...	39,382	30,760	70,142
Totals...	113,675	232,941	346,616

*Donations.*

The number of separate presents received during the year was 3,035, among the more interesting of them being :—

*Zoology.*

From His Excellency the Governor of Sierra Leone : the skull of a Gola forest elephant, *Loxodonta africana cyclotis*.

From Mrs. E. M. Hughes : skulls and mounted heads of African game animals, including a fine series of antelopes and other ungulates from the Lake Bangweolo districts, shot by the late Mr. J. E. Hughes.

From Rear-Admiral Hubert Lynes, C.B., C.M.G. : a collection of 2,300 bird skins, from Tanganyika and the Belgian Congo.

*Entomology.*

From Dr. André Avinoff, Director of the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, U.S.A. : 83 photographs of important specimens of African Lymantriidæ, presented as a mark of appreciation of Mr. C. L. Collenette's work upon this family.

From Mr. R. W. Lloyd : 850 exceptionally valuable original drawings by Jacob Hübner, from his "Sammlung europäischen Schmetterlinge" with a number of additional sketches and plates.

*Geology.*

From the Trustees of the Salisbury, South Wilts, and Blackmore Museum : a fine collection of 4,700 specimens, mainly invertebrates, and a few reptilian and fish remains, from the zones of the chalk in the neighbourhood of Salisbury.

From the Hartlepool Museum : a very valuable example of a rare fish (*Dorypterus hoffmanni*) from the Permian of Durham.

From the Torquay Natural History Society : a collection of 165 fossil invertebrates from the Devonian of Devon.

From Mr. M. H. Donald : a large collection of fossil invertebrates, chiefly from the Carboniferous of Great Britain, made by the late Mrs. J. Longstaff (née Donald).

From Miss Annette Anning : a portrait, one of two versions painted after her death, of Mary Anning of Lyme Regis (1799–1847) who collected many of the earliest known British fossils in the Museum.

### *Mineralogy.*

From the Directors of the United Africa Company, Ltd. : a nugget (weighing 1 oz. 5 dwt.) and small but well-formed crystals of platinum from the Company's mines in Sierra Leone.

From Sir Robert Williams & Co. : a valuable selection of minerals from the Kilembi Mine on Mount Ruwenzori, chosen from the series at their London office.

From Messrs. Issacharoff Brothers : a comprehensive series of rough and worked lapis lazuli, from the Badakshan district, Afghanistan.

### *Botany.*

From Messrs. P. W. Richards and R. Ross : a collection of 870 plants, made by them on the Cambridge botanical expedition to Nigeria, 1935.

From Miss I. W. Hutchinson : a collection of 1,700 flowering plants, chiefly from the Jacobschon district, West Greenland.

From Mr. G. J. Kerrich : a series of 122 sheets of critical species of Finnish plants, collected by Mr. H. Krogerus.

From Mrs. R. Paulson : the herbarium of her husband, the late Robert Paulson, a well-known amateur lichenologist, comprising over 600 flowering plants and 467 lichens.

From Mrs. E. G. Wheelwright : a collection of British mosses, made by the Rev. H. E. F. Garnsey (1826–1903), a well-known bryologist.

From Miss H. S. Pollock : a Wedgwood medallion of the late Sir J. D. Hooker, O.M., G.C.S.I., P.R.S., Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, from 1865 to 1885.

From Miss G. Lister : a simple microscope and stand, constructed about 1820 and formerly belonging to her grandfather, Joseph Jackson Lister; also 221 original drawings used for the plates in the Monograph of Mycetozoa, published by the Trustees, being an addition to Miss Lister's many generous gifts of specimens, and her long and constant voluntary attention to the Museum collection of Mycetozoa.

### *Bequests, etc.*

The late Mr. E. B. Ashby bequeathed to the Museum a valuable collection of European insects consisting of 9,935 Lepidoptera, and 3,439 specimens of other orders.

The late Mr. Robert Adkin left to the Museum his entomological collection, with the cabinets and store boxes in which it was kept, valued at over £2,000, containing about fifty thousand specimens, and being particularly rich in rare varieties of Macro-Lepidoptera, in series exhibiting local variation, in extinct species, and in the Micro-Lepidoptera.

The Museum also received by bequest the herbarium of the late Mr. T. J. Foggitt, consisting of 4,640 sheets of British plants, of special value on account of the large number of good specimens of extreme rarities which it contained, and also as being the first collection wholly of Yorkshire plants received by the Museum.

The Trustees agreed to publish a monograph of the *Erebia*, a genus of Palearctic butterflies of alpine and sub-alpine distribution, prepared by Mr. B. C. S. Warren, and in consideration of this Mr. Warren entered into an agreement making over to the Trustees his whole collection of Palearctic butterflies, subject to his retaining the collection during his lifetime.

The Council of the Royal Asiatic Society has lent to the Museum six folio volumes of original water-colour drawings, apparently the work of a native artist, illustrating the fauna and flora of Malacca. The drawings were presented to the Society by Lieut.-Colonel William Farquhar, who died in 1839, and will remain the property of the Society, but their withdrawal from the Museum is not contemplated by the Royal Asiatic Society.

The Trustees accepted an offer made by Mr. Thomas Sheppard, M.Sc., Director of the Municipal Museums, Hull, to present to the Museum the skeleton of a young Blue Whale from the Hull Museum, on condition that the Trustees would pay the cost of articulating and mounting in its place the skeleton of a Southern Right Whale, presented to the Hull Museum by University College, Hull.

#### *Purchases.*

Important purchases included : 115 skins and skulls and 25 spirit specimens of mammals, 145 birds, 9 reptiles, and 500 fishes from Ashanti and the northern territories of the Gold Coast ; a collection of bird skins and eggs from Chile ; a collection of about 20,000 insects, chiefly Hymenoptera, from Europe ; 164 butterflies from Central Asia ; a collection of Australian fossils, containing 1,100 Permian and Triassic insects, 550 fossil plants, 50 Triassic fishes, 105 corals and several hundred other invertebrates ; fossil fishes from the Alpine Trias of Besano, Switzerland ; about 450 fossil invertebrates, chiefly ammonites, from the Lias and inferior Oolite of Dorset ; a fine series of 98 meteoric stones, weighing 48,640 grams, which fell as a shower at Tenham, Queensland ; a wine-coloured topaz ; a collection of hand specimens and thin-sections of rocks from the Swiss Alps, prepared under the direction of Prof. P. Niggli and Dr. C. Friedlaender ; a fine series of well-localized Brazilian minerals, including a topaz crystal, a citrine, and a pink kunzite ; a collection of 2,640 phanerogams and 78 cryptogams from Siam ; a collection of 1,250 plants from Borneo ; and plants from Spain, Morocco, Alaska, and the Aleutian Islands.

#### *Collecting expeditions.*

The Trustees made financial contributions towards the continuance of the botanical collecting expedition in Papua by Mr. C. E. Carr ; towards a collecting expedition to Dutch New Guinea by Miss L. E. Cheeseman ; towards an expedition to Southern India for collecting insects, by Mr. G. M. Henry ; for the engagement of a preparator to assist Mr. H. St. J. Philby in collecting in Arabia ; towards an entomological collecting expedition to the south of Spain by Dr. Malcolm Burr ; and towards expeditions to Morocco and Mount Kilimanjaro by Mr. K. H. Chapman and Mr. B. Cooper respectively.

Dr. F. W. Edwards and Dr. G. Taylor, the leaders of the British Museum (Natural History) East Africa Expedition, returned on 30 March. Collecting was mainly concentrated on the Aberdare Mountains, the

Birunga Mountains, Mount Ruwenzori, and Mount Elgon, but the lower country and several rivers in Kenya and Uganda were also visited, and about 20,000 insects and 4,200 plants were obtained as a result of the expedition.

An expedition to Tibet and Bhutan (financed jointly by the Museum and the Godman Exploration Fund), made by Captain G. Sheriff and Mr. F. Ludlow, resulted in the acquisition for the Museum of botanical collections comprising 523 flowering plants and 53 cryptogams, including many species of horticultural interest, and 874 specimens of birds, belonging to some 242 species.

Useful botanical collections were obtained as a result of an expedition to Central Albania undertaken by Mr. A. H. G. Alston, Assistant Keeper, and Mr. N. Y. Sandwith of the Kew Herbarium.

During a visit to Palestine to collect Pleistocene fossils, Miss D. M. A. Bate worked chiefly at Bethlehem, in conjunction with the Wellcome Archaeological Expedition to the Near East, but she also visited the Jordan below Lake Huleh, where the river was being deepened. The collections made by her included rhinoceros and elephant remains.

Mr. R. B. Benson, Assistant Keeper, collected in the Swiss Alps over four thousand Hymenoptera, including about 20 species of saw-flies not previously found in Central Europe.

Dr. H. D. Thomas, Assistant Keeper, attended the Field Meetings of the Geologists' Association at Much Wenlock in September, where he collected for the Museum over 100 fossil invertebrates, including specimens of a coral previously unknown to science.

Captain D. S. Wilkinson, a voluntary worker, visited on behalf of the Museum various scientific institutions in Germany and Belgium to examine type specimens of parasitic Hymenoptera, and brought back for more critical examination a considerable quantity of valuable material.

#### *Publications.*

The following new works were published during the year:—

“Terra Nova” Expedition Reports.

Zoology, Vol. IV, No. 8.

(This completed the Zoological series of reports.)

Insects of Samoa and other Samoan Terrestrial Arthropoda.

Part II, Fascicle 5.

Part III, Fascicle 4.

Part VI, Fascicle 9.

Part IX, Fascicle 2.

Part IX, Fascicle 3. Addenda et Corrigenda. Index.

Preface, Tables of Contents, Index to Contributors, Title pages, etc.

Great Barrier Reef Report.

Vol. II, No. 7.

Vol. III, No. 10.

Vol. V, No. 1.

John Murray Expedition to the Indian Ocean, 1933-34. Scientific Reports.

Vol. I, No. 1. By R. B. Seymour Sewell.

List of British Vertebrates. By M. A. C. Hinton, F.R.S., B. W. Tucker, H. W. Parker, and J. R. Norman.

Triassic Fishes of Brookvale, New South Wales. By R. T. Wade.

Catalogue of Fossil Cirripedia.

Vol. II. Cretaceous. By T. H. Withers.

Guide to Fossil Plants.

Instructions for Collectors, No. 4.—Insects. (Eighth Edition.)

Economic Series.

No. 14.—Clothes Moths and House Moths. (Second Edition.)

Picture Postcard Booklet, E 57—British Immigrant Butterflies and Moths.

The publication of the "Natural History Magazine" was continued.

In addition to the above publications, 362 reports and descriptive papers, based on the collections, by members of the staff and others, were published in scientific periodicals.

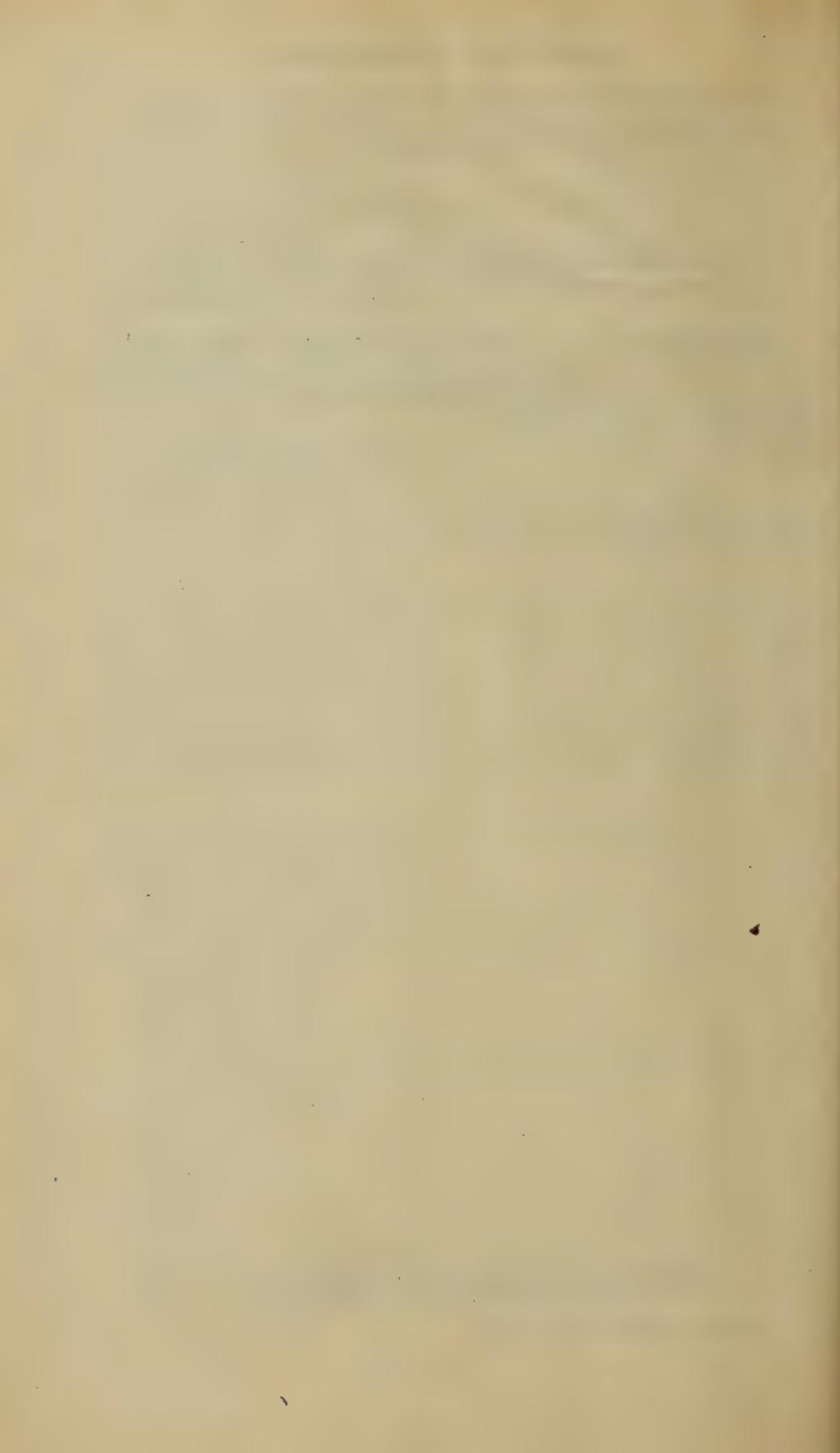
C. TATE REGAN,  
*Director.*

BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY).

1 April, 1936.

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BRITISH MUSEUM AND  
BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY)

Annual Report of the  
General Progress of the Museums  
for the year 1936

With a return of the Number of Persons  
admitted to the Museums, and a Statement  
of the Principal Objects added to the  
Collection

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1937

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PERSONS ADMITTED TO VIEW THE COLLECTIONS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM  
in each Year from 1931 to 1936, both Years included.

	1931		1932		1933		1934		1935		1936	
	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.
January	...	81,377	7,663	87,082	12,129	59,041	10,664	112,218	13,214	81,651	9,120	83,347
February	...	66,140	8,889	77,578	11,582	54,188	8,927	78,728	13,633	72,855	10,301	83,640
March	...	66,425	8,857	94,835	10,581	68,536	10,196	86,083	12,358	76,918	13,841	87,372
April	...	90,469	9,202	79,357	10,662	77,714	11,835	94,606	15,094	87,145	10,355	102,214
May	...	77,168	9,723	79,733	12,056	72,981	10,223	85,210	9,704	74,399	8,779	83,493
June	...	75,182	6,094	73,776	8,269	82,940	11,246	74,625	8,466	86,385	12,317	101,123*
July	...	102,076	9,455	80,769	12,922	83,616	14,643	82,668	12,639	89,593	9,333	121,862
August	...	135,999	13,402	95,219	8,614	98,808	10,694	100,392	13,257	101,271	9,824	106,207
September	...	132,265	7,139	80,935	10,566	87,370	12,451	79,137	13,927	88,404	15,215	105,068
October	...	122,490	6,718	72,661	14,378	88,806	15,862	89,240	11,157	92,767	12,911	107,376
November...	...	108,335	8,875	68,969	9,738	79,368	11,743	81,525	12,373	92,336	13,419	94,979
December...	...	91,876	8,892	63,414	7,702	85,077	14,855	80,223	12,372	88,824	15,017	94,802
Total	Number of Persons admitted to view the Gene- ral Collections	1,149,802	104,909	954,328	129,199	933,046	143,339	1,044,655	148,194	1,032,548	140,432	1,171,483
		1,254,711	1,083,527	1,076,385	1,076,385	1,192,849	1,192,849	1,172,980	1,172,980	1,324,300	1,324,300	1,324,300

\* North Entrance opened on June 22nd.

NUMBER OF VISITS OF STUDENTS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS

	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
Reading Room	226,270	238,030	236,533	238,586	235,857	255,361
Newspaper Room ** and Hendon Repository	18,068	10,023	4,548	5,986	6,288	7,875
Map Room	997	1,124	1,423	1,722	1,697	1,731
State Paper Room	...	...	...	...	...	...
Department of Manuscripts	...	...	...	...	...	...
Department of Oriental Printed Books and MSS.	...	...	...	...	...	...
Print Room	...	...	...	...	...	...
Egyptian and Assyrian Department	...	...	...	...	...	...
Greek and Roman Department	...	...	...	...	...	...
Galleries of Sculpture	...	...	...	...	...	...
British and Medieval Department	...	...	...	...	...	...
Department of Oriental Antiquities and of Ethnography†	...	...	...	...	...	...
Coin and Medal Room	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...
	284,885	292,260	292,476	294,591	292,038	314,333

\* Opened June 1932. † In June 1933 the Department of Ceramics and Ethnography was reconstituted.  
\*\* Closed 30th May, 1932.

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

*Visitors.*

The increase in the number of visitors which began in the latter months of 1935 was maintained throughout 1936, and the resulting total of 1,324,300 is the highest recorded.

The visitors attending the free lecture tours of the Official Guide Lecturers numbered 20,150 (21,597 in 1935); and the visitors conducted by the authorised guides, for whose services moderate fees are payable, numbered 8,847, as compared with 9,752 in 1935.

*Students.*

The Reading Rooms of the Library, including the Colindale Newspaper Library, the Map Room and the State Paper Room, received 255,361 visits as compared with 235,857 in 1935.

The difficulties of service caused by reconstruction recorded in the Report for 1935 continued; the number of volumes supplied to readers was 2,139,014, as compared with 2,056,979 in 1935, but is still below the figure of 2,220,964 in 1934.

43,033 Manuscripts and 7,531 Charters and Seals were issued in the Student's Room of the Department of Manuscripts. 25,505 volumes were consulted in the Department of Oriental Printed Books and Manuscripts.

The total number of visits paid by students to the various departments of the Museum, 314,333, is higher than any recorded since 1913 and higher than that for 1935 by 21,995.

*Photography and Casts.*

The number of books issued for photography was 4,868 (including 99 used at Colindale) and of manuscripts 1,946.

From other departments of the Museum, 5,399 objects were photographed.

192 casts and 40 new moulds were made, these figures showing some decline on those for 1935.

In the Department of Coins and Medals, 4,853 casts and 139 electro-types have been made, and work has also been done for the Egyptian and British and Medieval Departments.

*Studio.*

The output of the Photographic Studio is shown in the following table:—

	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
Negatives ... ...	3,234	3,374	3,429	3,782	4,090
Prints ... ...	7,844	9,642	8,750	9,533	11,853
Lantern Slides ...	545	1,075	1,302	872	660
Photostats ... ...	24,938	21,695	22,993	24,424	24,791

*Loans of Lantern Slides.*

2,214 lantern slides were issued on loan (2,133 in 1935, 6,878 in 1934, a figure accounted for by the Codex Sinaiticus, and 2,943 in 1933).

*Micro-films.*

Apparatus has recently been installed for the making of micro-films. 50 printed books and MSS. have been copied by this process during the year.

*Publications.*

The sales of publications were :—

	1933	1934	1935	1936
Catalogues and major publications	5,950	5,870	6,671	5,843
Guide Books ... ...	18,068	15,594	13,866	18,034
Postcards, monochrome and coloured ... ...	429,184	426,731	461,223	579,757
Reproductions ... ...	18,666	17,296	19,876	16,712

The chief works issued during the year 1936 were :—

General Catalogue of Printed Books in the British Museum,  
Vol. XIII Belg-Beov.

Vol. XIV Beow-Bern.

Vol. XVI Bible : Part I. Complete Bible and Old Testament.

Saxton's Atlas of the Counties of England. Facsimile in colour.

Rules for compiling the Catalogues in the Department of Printed Books. Revised edition.

Codex Alexandrinus. Old Testament. Reduced facsimile. Part III.

El Comendador Roman. Facsimile of unique Spanish edition.

Ambrosio Montesino. Facsimile of unique Spanish edition.

Catalogue of Nielli, chiefly Italian of the XVth Century.

Ur Excavations. Vol. III. Archaic Seal-Impressions.

Catalogue of Roman Imperial Coins. Vol. III.

The proceeds of sales, including volumes of the new edition of the General Catalogue, amounted to £11,527 (£10,358 in 1935).

*Buildings.*

The re-arrangement of the Egyptian Sculpture Gallery has been completed, a new system of electric lighting arranged and installed, and the northern end and the Central Saloon redecorated. The southern end is now being re-arranged and redecorated.

The North Entrance was re-opened on 22nd June, and from that date until the end of the year it was used by 33,892 visitors.

Throughout the year the Upper Egyptian Galleries and the North Library were closed during reconstruction; they are expected to be re-opened in 1937. Readers were accommodated in temporary quarters in the White Wing.

Work on the Bible Room was started in November, 1936, and is expected to be completed in 1937.

A second bookstall has been added in the Hall for the sale of photographs and publications.

*Temporary Exhibitions.*

Among temporary exhibitions held during the year the following may be mentioned :—

Erasmus Exhibition.

Tyndale Quatercentenary Exhibition.

Historical MSS. (in connection with the Anglo-American Historical Conference).

Works of W. S. Gilbert.

Prints and Drawings of Landscape, Topography and Architecture,  
“From Canaletto to Constable.”

Select Prints, English and Foreign Drawings, and Water-Colours from the Turner Bequest.

The Sligo Collection of Altered Plates.

Prints and Drawings presented by the Contemporary Art Society.

Egyptian Antiquities lent by Mr. C. S. Gulbenkian.

Finds from Sir Leonard Woolley's North Syrian Expedition.

Palaeolithic Antiquities from Caves of Cresswell Crags found by Mr. A. L. Armstrong.

Palaeolithic Flint Implements from Warren Hill, in Suffolk (mainly from the Sturge Collection).

Prehistoric and Medieval Gold Work lent from the Royal Collections.

Stole and Pectoral Cross from St. Cuthbert's Tomb, lent by the Dean and Chapter of Durham.

Collection of Ordos Bronzes lent by Mrs. Dagny Carter.

Important Acquisitions of Coins and Medals made in the last 25 years (in connection with the International Congress of Numismatists, June 30th—July 3rd).

*Representation at Congresses.*

Mr. J. Allan represented the Trustees at the International Congress of Numismatists and the Centenary Celebrations of the Royal Numismatic Society in London, and, with Dr. Plenderleith, at the Annual Conference of the Museums Association at Leeds. Dr. H. I. Bell, accompanied by Mr. A. J. Collins and Mr. F. Wormald, represented the Trustees at the International Congress of Byzantine Studies in Rome, and, with Dr. R. Flower, at the fourth quinquennial Anglo-American Conference of Historians in London. The Trustees were represented by Mr. Reginald A. Smith, accompanied by Mr. C. F. C. Hawkes, at the Congress of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Sciences at Oslo, and by Mr. A. E. Popham at the International Art Congress in Switzerland. Mr. B. Schofield attended the Conference of the Société internationale de Musicologie at Barcelona.

*Acquisitions.*

The total number of objects added to the collections in 1936 was 379,831, less by 33,507 than in 1935, and by 1,738 than in 1934.

The figures for the several Departments were as follows :—

Printed Books :	1935	1936
Books and Pamphlets ... ... ...	36,096	40,096
Serials and Parts of Volumes ... ... ...	77,925	82,478
Maps and Atlases ... ... ...	1,070	1,252
Music ... ... ...	9,768	11,390
Newspapers (Single Numbers) ... ... ...	264,501	212,349
Miscellaneous ... ... ...	3,495	3,351
Manuscripts ... ... ...	1,070	261
Oriental Printed Books and MSS. ... ...	2,869	5,187
Prints and Drawings ... ... ...	1,911	4,430
Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities ... ...	1,087	1,075
Greek and Roman Antiquities ... ...	85	120
British and Medieval Antiquities ... ...	2,285	2,047
Oriental Antiquities and Ethnography ... ...	573	2,785
"    "    Series of objects ... ...	44	
Coins and Medals ... ... ...	6,006	13,010
	413,338	379,831

Full description of the more important objects acquired during the year may be found as usual in the *British Museum Quarterly*. The National Art-Collections Fund, the Friends of the National Libraries, the Contemporary Art Society, and the Christy Trustees have again added to the collections of the Museum.

The chief acquisitions of the various Departments were :—

*Printed Books.*

Bertoldus: *Horologium devotionis*. Anton Sorg: Augsburg, 1489. Presented by Sir Charles Sherrington, O.M.

Jean Caron. *Opusculum tumultuarium*. Felix Baligault. [Paris, circa 1498]. Presented by Sir Charles Sherrington, O.M.

Pope Alexander VI. "Consueverunt Romani pontifices." Stephan Plannck: Rome, 1499. Presented by Sir Charles Sherrington, O.M.

Pierce Tempest. *The cryes of the City of London, drawne after the life*. [London, circa 1688]. Presented by Miss Helen Farquhar.

Johannes de Selva. *Tractatus beneficialis*. Galliot Du Pré: Paris, 1504. Presented by Sir Charles Sherrington, O.M.

Carta das novas que vieram a el Rey nosso Senhordo descobrimento do preste Joham [G. Galharde: Lisbon, 1521]. Presented by the Friends of the National Libraries.

Pierre Gracie. *Le grand routier et pilotage*. Jehan Burges: Rouen, 1531.

Pierre de la Ramée. *Dialectique*. André Wechel: Paris, 1555. Ambroise Paré. *Dix Livres de la chirurgie*. J. Le Roger: Paris, 1564. Ambroise Paré. *Les Oeuvres*. Gabriel Buon: Paris, 1575. Presented by the Friends of the National Libraries.

Lope de Vega. *Arcadia*. L. Sanchez: Madrid, 1598. Giulio Grotto: *La Violina con la sua risposta et altre Canzoni*: Muncali bellissime. Ferrara (circa 1600). Presented by Mr. Edward Heron-Allen, F.R.S.

C. Favre de Vaugelas. *Remarques sur la langue françoise.* Paris, 1647.

*Myologie complète en couleur et grandeur naturelle.* (Text by G. J. Duverney in illustration of plates by J. Gautier d'Agoty).

*The Anti-Jacobin.* London, 1797, 98. (with MS. notes by George Canning). Presented by Mr. Julian Moore.

R. T. H. Laennec. *De l'auscultation mediate.* Paris, 1819.

*Manuscripts.*

The Evesham Psalter, written and finely illuminated in England, circa 1250, presented by the National Art-Collections Fund.

Album of cuttings from a Carmelite Missal.

A chartulary of Blackborough Priory, co. Norfolk, temp. Richard II.

A rental of Little Wymondley Priory, co. Hertf., 1537, presented by Mr. Reginald L. Hine.

Accounts for the rebuilding and repair of the Castle of Kirby Muxloe, co. Leic., 1480-84.

Holograph MS. of 'Kim' and volume of autograph poems of Rudyard Kipling, presented by the author in November, 1925, on condition that they were to be reserved during his lifetime.

Autograph abstract, by Sir Isaac Newton, of Bacilius Valentinus, 'His Last Will and Testament,' presented by Lord Wakefield through the Friends of the National Libraries.

The holograph MS. of Nathaniel Hawthorne's 'The Marble Faun,' in two volumes, presented by Mrs. Charles Merivale in memory of her father, H. A. Bright.

The autograph MSS. of the 1st Earl of Lytton's 'The Coming Race' and 'Marah,' presented by the Earl of Lytton, K.G.; of Rhoda Broughton's 'Between Two Stools,' in two volumes, presented by Mr. C. F. Bell,; of 'The Early Life of Mark Rutherford (W. Hale-White) by himself,' presented by Sir William Hale-White, K.B.E., through the Friends of the National Libraries; and of the well-known ghost story, 'Casting the Runes' by Dr. M. R. James; an autograph translation by Samuel Rogers of 'Guerra de' Mostri' of Il Lasca (Antonio Fr. Grazzini), presented by Mr. G. McN. Rushforth; three autograph poems of A. E. Housman, from 'Last Poems,' presented by Mr. Laurence Housman, through Professor G. M. Trevelyan, O.M.; some autograph compositions of Letitia Elizabeth Landon, presented by Lt.-Col. Sir John Murray. K.C.V.O., D.S.O.; two drafts of Lord Cromer's Modern Egypt and Abbas II, typescript with autograph additions and corrections, in nine volumes, presented by the 2nd Earl of Cromer.

*Oriental Printed Books and Manuscripts.*

*Arabic MSS.:* A commentary on Ibn Mālik's *Alfiyah* by his son Badr al-Dīn; mostly 15th century. *Al-Itkān fi 'Ulūm al-Ku'rān*, on the Koranic Sciences, by Jalāl al-Dīn al-Suyūtī, A.H. 977. *Tabakat al-hanābilah*, biographies of Hanibali jurists, by Ibn Ya'li, collated with the author's autograph, A.H. 896. *Zād al-Ma'ād fi Hady Khair al-'Ibād*, a

description of the Prophet's religious practices, habits, personal appearance, clothing, domestic affairs, etc., by Ibn Kaiyim al-Jauziyah, Vol. 1 (of three); A.H. 776. *Al-Ishārah ila 'Ilm al-'Ibārah*, a manual of dream-interpretation, by Muhammad b. Ahmad al-Sālimī; A.H. 855. *A-Muktarah*, a commentary by Muzaaffar b. 'Abd Allāh al-Azdī on *al-Irshād fi Usūl al-I'tikād*, a doctrinal work by 'Abd al-Malik b. 'Abd Allāh al-Juwainī, Maghribi script A.H. 995. *Kitāba l-Maudū'āt*, studies in the apocryphal Traditions, by Ibn al-Jauzī. The latter part of vol. 1, A.H. 599. *Sharh Masa'il Hunain*, a commentary on the medical Questions of Hunain b. Ishāk, by 'Abd al-Rahmān Ibn abi Sādik, Pt. 1, 13th–14th century. *Al-Adwiyat al-Mufradah*, a work on simple medicines, by Abu Bakr Hamid b. Samhūn, Pt. 2, 13th century. *Al-Adwiyat al-Mufradah*, another treatise on simple medicines, by Ibn al-Ash'ath, Pt. 1; 13th–14th century. *Diyā al-Hulūm*, an abridgment of Nashwān b. Sa'īd's dictionary *Shams al-'Ulūm*, Pt. 2, copied in A.H. 639 at San'a'.

*Arabic and Turkish MS.* : An Arabic-Turkish dictionary, arranged firstly in alphabetical order and secondly according to subjects; in the handwriting of Hasan b. Hājjī Hamzah (possibly the author), A.H. 807.

*Chinese MS.* : A Gazetteer of Wei-hai-wei, in the province of Shantung; compiled under the direction of Wang Shih-jēn; in 10 parts (4 vols.). A.D. 1777, presented by Mr. C. F. Hogg.

*Ethiopic MS.* : The Minor Prophets in Ethiopic, followed by *Ankasa Amin*, a polemic against Islam, vellum, 17th century.

*Hebrew MS.* : A Jewish Ritual for the whole year, according to the use of Spain, with a commentary by Joseph ben Saddik; vellum, with some illuminations in Spanish-Moorish style, 15th century.

*Oriya MS.* : Rādhā-krishna-kēli-kathā, an Oriya poem on the legends of Krishna and Rādhā, delicately incised on 20 sheets of palm-leaf, with illustrations on each of them, 16th century.

*Persian MS.* : A number of fragments of the Garshāsp-nāmah, 14th century.

#### *Prints and Drawings.*

*John Downman* : five albums containing 159 portrait drawings; from a collection put together and annotated by the artist towards the end of his life. *William Hogarth* : portrait study for the etching of John Wilkes. *John Smith* ("Warwick Smith") : forty-six water-colours; from the Earl of Warwick collection. *William Blake* : Europe, a series of eleven proofs in monochrome. *J. H. Fragonard* : album of 71 drawings, presented by Mrs. Spencer Whatley.

The following drawings from the Oppenheimer collection, the first three being presented by the National Art-Collections Fund: *Sir Anthony Vandyc*; Landscape, water-colour. *Fra Filippo Lippi* : The Crucifixion. *Cima da Conegliano* : Head of St. Jerome. *Paris Bordone* : Study of a man in armour. *Jacopo Pontormo* : sheet of figure studies. *Timoteo Viti* : Christ on the Cross. *G. B. Tiepolo* : Farm-yard gate. *Nicolas Neufchâtel* (called *Lucidel*) : Portrait of a bearded man.

#### *Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities.*

A large collection of pottery, terracotta figurines, bronzes, seals and amulets, mainly from Persia, varying in date from before 3000 B.C.,

and for the most part from known sites; specially selected to illustrate periods not hitherto represented, or inadequately represented, in the collections.

Six antiquities from Iraq, namely (1) a steatite bowl, carved round the outside in low relief with human and animal figures, dating from about 2500 B.C., (2) a granite vase with lions and bulls carved in relief, dating from before 3000 B.C., (3) a bronze figure of a goat, date uncertain, (4) a bronze figure of a naked woman holding a bottle, about 2300-2000 B.C., (5) a clay plaque with a hunting scene, (6) another clay plaque with a lion in relief, both about 1900 B.C. These objects have been purchased with the assistance of the National Art-Collections Fund.

*From Egypt*; Head of Rameses II and top of pyramidion in bronze, presented by Lady Tirard, and *from South Arabia*, a Himyarite inscription in stone, from Sana'a, presented by Dr. Alex MacRae.

#### *From Syria.*

From the excavations at Chager Bazar in Northern Syria, supported by the British School of Archaeology in Iraq, the Trustees of the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, Mr. L. C. G. Clarke for the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnography, Cambridge, and principally by the Director of the Expedition, Mr. M. E. L. Mallowan, a valuable collection of pottery, bronze objects and figurines illustrating principally the civilisation between 2500 and 1500 B.C.

The Trustees have accepted on loan sixteen portraits of the second century A.D., mostly from Hawara, Egypt, from the Trustees of the National Gallery, and twenty-six Egyptian antiquities, illustrating sculpture in stone, wood, ivory, and metal, from Mr. C. S. Gulbenkian.

#### *Green and Roman Antiquities.*

The year's acquisitions are of wide variety rather than of outstanding individual importance. The best piece is a large late Geometric Attic amphora, others of interest being a Hellenistic marble head of a woman, an Etruscan bronze statuette of Mercury, and a Hellenistic Greco-Egyptian dwarf in terracotta. Other Greek pieces are a small Geometric bronze bull, a Corinthian alabastron of the sixth century B.C. and a vase in the form of a duck of the fourth; Roman are some vase-fragments and a small marble head of Dionysos. Crete is represented by some good Minoan vase-fragments, and Cyprus by a small limestone statuette of Amon-Re and by Bronze and Iron Age pottery. There are also a number of gems, Minoan, Archaic Greek, Hellenistic, Etruscan and Roman.

#### *British and Medieval Antiquities.*

Series of flints assigned to the Middle Le Moustier industry, excavated by Mr. J. P. T. Burchell from a lateral valley-deposit near Northfleet, Kent. Presented by Mr. J. P. T. Burchell.

Series of Mesolithic flint microliths from Risby Warren and Sheffield's Hill, near Scunthorpe, Lincs.

Series of Early Bronze Age flint implements from Sheffield's Hill, near Scunthorpe, and of flint scrapers, etc., excavated at Grime's Graves, Norfolk.

Stone and flint implements of successive phases of the Stone Age in Southern Rhodesia and British Bechuanaland; with a flint hoe from Egypt. Presented by Mrs. Favell, from the collection of the late Dr. R. V. Favell.

Series of flint implements and pottery fragments, Neolithic and Early Bronze Age, excavated by the donor from flint-mines and adjacent dwelling-sites on Easton Down, Winterslow, Wilts; and Late Bronze Age pottery from an enclosure-site on Boscombe Down East, Wilts. Presented by Dr. J. F. S. Stone.

Series of implements, ornaments, statuettes, and pottery from the excavations of Prof. M. Vassits at the Neolithic site of Finca, near Belgrade. Presented by Sir Charles Hyde, Bart.

Neolithic pottery of 'Bandkeramik' type, flint and stone implements, from the Neolithic site excavated by the donor at Köln-Lindenthal Germany. Presented by Dr. Werner Buttler.

Neolithic pottery of 'Bandkeramik' type, and Early Iron Age pottery of the Hallstatt C period, from various sites in South Germany. Presented by Dr. Gerhard Bersu.

Type-series of stone implements, from numerous sites, representing the successive stages of the Stone Age in Uganda, collection by the Expedition under Mr. T. P. O'Brien. Presented by the African Prehistoric Research Expedition.

Flint palaeoliths of the Upper St. Acheul industry excavated by the donor at Kharga Oasis, Libyan Desert, Egypt. Presented by Miss G. Caton-Thompson.

Series of Predynastic flint implements from the Society's excavations at Armant, Egypt. Presented by Sir Robert Mond on behalf of the Egypt Exploration Society.

Series of flints representing the 'Aterian' industry of North Africa, excavated by M. le Du at Oued-Djouf, Algeria. Presented by the Institut de Paléontologie Humaine, Paris.

Gold finger-ring of the 4th century A.D., found at Richborough Castle, Kent. Presented by H.M. Commissioners of Works.

Pottery fragments excavated by the late Dr. R. V. Favell from a dwelling-site in St. Keverne parish, Cornwall. Presented by Mrs. Favell.

Jewellery, ornaments, and weapons from the Jutish cemetery at Howletts, near Canterbury. Presented by Miss Newman.

English and foreign medieval seal-dies, and a brass mounted bone casket, French, 15th century. All from the Henry Oppenheimer Collection.

Silver sweetmeat-box with London hall-marks, date-letter for 1679-80 and maker's stamp (John Sutton). Presented by Mr. Rennie Manderson.

#### *Coins and Medals.*

The most remarkable acquisition of the past year has been the remainder (over 10,000 coins) of the Clarke-Thornhill Bequest. This covers the non-British coins and its special features are the extensive

German, Chinese and Central and South American series. Among other gifts may be noted the medal by Gambello of Giovanni Bellini presented by the National Art-Collections Fund from the Oppenheimer Collection, and the medals of Giovanni Gonzaga, Marquis of Mantua, and of the humanist Martinus Philethicus by Lysippus, presented by Mr. C. S. Gulbenkian. Important Greek coins have been presented by Mr. H. C. Hoskier, Miss Purdie, Mr. E. S. G. Robinson and Professor T. O. Mabbott. A fine collection of medieval English boy-bishops' tokens was presented by Mr. J. B. Caldecott and some rare Chinese decorations by Mrs. H. B. Morse. Purchases have included 30 important Italian medals from the Oppenheimer Collection, a fine series of English medieval coins from the Lawrence Collection, while treasure trove from Dorchester, Shapwick and Boyton has filled a number of gaps in the Roman and English series.

#### *Oriental Antiquities and Ethnography.*

Approximately three quarters of the amount due for the Eumorfopoulos Collection has now been paid and a corresponding proportion of the collection has been divided between the British Museum, the Victoria and Albert and provincial Museums. The British Museum's share, which is in process of being incorporated, consists of 120 paintings, 298 ceramic and 492 objects in metal, jade, etc.

Other additions to the Oriental Collections include a Chinese celadon dish, beaker, vase and box, an early Chinese bronze lamp holder and a horse, and a 10th century bronze Jain group from the Kenneth Kay Collection ; 81 specimens of Chinese porcelain, etc., bequeathed by Reginald Cory ; a 10th century sandstone group of Brahma and Sarasvati given by Prof. R. Newstead, F.R.S. ; and an album of 74 Mughal drawings given by the National Art-Collections Fund.

Ceramic additions include 142 specimens of English (mostly Derby) porcelain given by Mr. F. Howard Paget ; a Chelsea porcelain group of Europa and the Bull given by Messrs. Stoner & Evans ; and a Delft model of a sledge given by Miss F. Laura Cannan.

To the Ethnographical Collections have been added :—a large archaeological and ethnographical series from the Gold Coast, given by Capt. R. P. Wild, ; a large ethnographical series from New Zealand given by Major P. H. G. and Miss A. Powell Cotton ; a large series of pottery and baskets from Abyssinia given by Sir Claud F. Russell, K.C.M.G. : an archaeological series from San José, British Honduras, given by the Carnegie Institute of Washington and the Belize Estate and Produce Co. ; a large ethnographical collection from New Guinea, New Britain, Andaman Islands, etc., given by Lord Moyne, P.C., D.S.O., together with photographs given by Lady Broughton ; and an ethnographical series from the Eskimos of East Greenland.

A collection of Araucanian silver from Chile and of other ethnographical objects collected on his world tour as Prince of Wales, was deposited on loan by H.M. King Edward VIII.

#### *Laboratory.*

Improved apparatus has facilitated the electro-chemical cleaning of corroded metal objects in quantities not hitherto possible ; large finds of coins, for example, have been treated in this way. The cleaning, and in one

case, relining, of Graeco-Roman encaustic paintings from the Petrie Collection deposited on loan by the National Gallery, has been successfully carried out. The spectrograph has made possible analytical investigations of ancient alloys; while an X-ray apparatus with darkroom has been installed, and its value is already apparent.

The pectoral cross of St. Cuthbert was deposited by the Dean and Chapter of Durham Cathedral, and was cleaned and repaired.

The Laboratory staff have devoted much time to training the staffs of the British Museum's Departments and also to advising those of other Museums as well as private individuals.

JOHN FORSDYKE,

BRITISH MUSEUM,  
*April, 1937.*

*Director and Principal Librarian.*

PERSONS ADMITTED TO VIEW THE COLLECTIONS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY),  
in each Year from 1931 to 1936, both years included

	1931		1932		1933		1934		1935		1936	
	Week-day.	Sun-day.										
January	...	...	...	...	27,526	7,700	41,210	8,195	44,815	6,280	45,974	9,696
February	...	...	...	...	26,973	7,345	26,211	7,969	32,758	7,351	32,120	10,926
March	...	...	...	...	8,980	56,690	9,390	8,504	38,807	10,629	35,014	11,690
April	...	...	...	...	57,846	8,844	44,032	8,653	59,290	9,094	70,354	10,251
May	...	...	...	...	10,771	45,607	5,698	8,882	34,861	8,347	41,290	5,411
June	...	...	...	...	29,987	43,235	30,629	6,031	38,633	12,028	33,763	4,910
July	...	...	...	...	8,513	6,513	11,236	38,844	8,098	7,103	38,746	4,960
August	...	...	...	...	62,424	12,521	63,556	6,099	6,095	77,870	7,719	58,485
September	...	...	...	...	41,826	7,913	38,468	10,204	42,633	7,661	40,880	10,243
October	...	...	...	...	34,297	6,687	42,114	13,180	43,886	11,986	40,578	9,385
November	...	...	...	...	29,699	7,823	35,480	7,707	34,130	7,728	33,152	9,081
December	...	...	...	...	28,577	6,822	34,481	3,659	31,019	8,209	32,041	11,640
Total Number of Persons admitted to view the Natural History Collections (including students) ...	437,553	99,617	501,713	101,205	505,365	101,347	523,542	108,240	545,805	120,342	508,058	130,083
	537,170	502,918	602,918	602,918	606,712	606,712	631,782	631,782	666,147	666,147	638,141	638,141
NUMBER OF VISITS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF STUDY.												
	1931		1932		1933		1934		1935		1936	
Zoology (including Art Students)	...	13,005		11,840		13,828		15,019		14,334		13,911
Entomology	...	...	4,085	4,775		4,589		4,862		5,160		4,427
Geology	...	...	2,370	1,784		1,764		2,450		2,113		2,246
Mineralogy	...	...	412	341		423		661		761		866
Botany	...	...	4,119	4,260		4,210		3,842		3,904		3,506
General Library...	...	...	744	538		545		849		975		903
Total ...	...	24,735		23,538		25,359		27,683		27,247		25,859

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY).

The total number of visitors to the British Museum (Natural History) during 1936 was 638,141, as compared with 666,147 in 1935. Thus, although attendances were slightly lower than last year, they still exceeded all other previous records. The visitors on Sunday afternoons numbered 130,083, showing an increase of 9,741 on the figure for 1935. The total number of visitors attending the tours of the Official Guide-Lecturers during 1936 was 23,347, as against 24,890 in 1935.

The weekly biology broadcasts for school children, received in the Board Room and followed by short tours in the galleries to illustrate the lectures, were attended during the school year 1935-36 by 709 children, and further consequential tours were arranged for 760 children.

The transference of the bird collections (which occupy nearly 5,000 drawers) to the three lower floors of the New Western Block was completed by the beginning of July. In order to facilitate their removal, an opening was made in the wall of the old Bird Room and a temporary bridge was constructed linking the two buildings. A similar method was employed in connexion with the subsequent removal of the entomological collections from the Empire Marketing Board section of the New Spirit Building to the three upper floors of the New Western Block; and the work of installing mezzanine floors in the section of the New Spirit Building thus vacated began in October.

Mr. M. A. C. Hinton, F.R.S., was appointed to the Keepership of the Department of Zoology, on the retirement of Dr. W. T. Calman, C.B., F.R.S. Mr. G. C. Robson, Deputy Keeper, Zoology, retired owing to ill-health. Mr. N. B. Kinnear and Dr. H. A. Baylis were appointed Deputy Keepers in the same Department.

### *Exhibition Galleries.*

A magnificent series of Elephant tusks deposited on permanent loan by H.M. King Edward VIII was placed on exhibition in the East Corridor. Considerable progress was made in the arrangement of exhibits in the Whale Hall, and a model of a Whale Shark, 34 feet long, was suspended in the Fish Gallery. A special exhibit illustrating the biology of water supply arranged by Dr. Anna B. Hastings, with assistance from the staff of the Water Examination Department of the Metropolitan Water Board, was placed in the Central Hall. The collection of molluscan shells was removed from the Shell Gallery and was rearranged for study purposes.

In the Department of Entomology only a few minor changes were made in the exhibited series during the year.

In the Department of Geology a new stereorama of Carboniferous fishes was completed and added to the series in the Fossil Fish Gallery, from which the case containing the William Smith Collection of Fossils was removed to a position near the entrance to the Fossil Mammal Gallery. A selected series only is now exhibited from this collection, together with some of Smith's maps and drawings.

The installation of the large Cranbourne meteoric iron in a nitrogen-filled case in the Mineral Gallery was completed. Top lighting and an illuminated head label were provided together with a descriptive label and map of the locality of the fall. A temporary exhibit of fused glass, etc., resulting from the fire at the Crystal Palace was arranged and placed on

view in the Central Hall. The exhibit illustrating minerals under ultra-violet rays was rearranged and the insides of wall cases at the Gallery entrance were dismantled and replaced by new fittings designed to accommodate the following exhibits—mineral inclusions, remarkable crystals, recent acquisitions, the Clarke-Thornhill and the Church Collections of precious stones, a selection from the Sir Hans Sloane Collection, and a temporary exhibit of large specimens.

In the Department of Botany no alteration was made in the exhibition series. The cleaning and painting of the exhibition cases was continued.

#### *Study Collections.*

The usual work of naming, labelling, registering, and incorporating accessions continued in all Departments. As in previous years, the Trustees are much indebted to numerous workers who gave their services voluntarily, many of whom worked continuously throughout the year. Research workers were given access to the collections in all Departments, and were assisted in their investigations.

The collection of Rhinoceros skulls was removed from the Upper Mammal Gallery to the Osteological Room. After the removal of the bird collection to the new Western Block, the old Bird Room and adjacent studies were prepared to house the collection of Mollusca, which was removed from the Shell Gallery and is being rearranged. Much research, revisionary work, and consequent rearrangement were done in most sections of the Department of Zoology.

In the Department of Entomology the usual routine work went forward steadily. In the Diptera considerable progress was made in the Chironomidæ, Tipulidæ, Bombyliidæ, Asilidæ, and Tabanidæ. In the Hymenoptera work was principally concerned with the sawflies, parasitic wasps, and ants. In the Coleoptera good progress was made with the rearrangement of the Cicindelidæ, Carabidæ, and Dytiscidæ. In the Lepidoptera monographic work on the Hesperiidæ was continued, also general work on the other families. In the Neuropterous series the British caddis-flies were completely rearranged and the whole collection brought up to date, while the ant-lions were given more space and rearranged. In Orthoptera attention was devoted chiefly to the Acridiidæ, Tettigoniidæ, and Blattidæ. In the Hemiptera certain sections of the Nabidæ, Capsidæ, and Cicadidæ were rearranged. Considerable progress was made with the reorganisation of the collection of White Ants. A great part of the time of the staff, as in former years, has been taken up with the identification of material communicated by other scientific institutions and specialists in various countries largely for "economic" purposes; and several large special collections, such as those made by the Edwards Taylor expedition to East Africa, Miss Cheesman's expeditions to New Guinea, and the Lake Rudolf Rift Valley expedition, have been to some extent worked out.

In the Department of Geology much work has been done on Pleistocene Mammals from East Africa, Carboniferous, Eocene, and Oligocene Gastropoda from Britain, Triassic Insects from Australia, Jurassic Brachiopoda from Britain, and Eocene Plants from Grinnell Land. 243 thin sections of various fossils and 20 plant cuticle preparations were made for purposes of study.

In the Department of Mineralogy X-ray and spectographic work was carried out on a new mineral from Castle an Dinas mine, Cornwall, as well as on a large number of bismuth minerals in the collections. Tyrosine

nodules from diseased pedialsps were identified by X-ray methods. Work on deep-sea crystals of calcium oxalate and calcium citrate (earlandite), a new mineral, and on ettringite was completed and published. Much further work was done on the igneous rocks of Northern Turkana, Kenya Colony, collected by Mr. Arthur Champion. The collections of Admiral J. I. Hollingworth, Dr. J. W. Evans and Mr. I. T. Sanderson were examined as well as specimens from Mr. Ashcroft's Swiss collection, and zeolites from Mull.

Work in the Department of Botany during the past year consisted largely in the naming and incorporation of collections and the rearrangement of specimens in accordance with recent monographs. Collections of flowering plants from Ruwenzori, the Gulf of Guinea, Palestine, Tibet, Bhutan, Borneo, and Greenland; West Indian Ferns; Arctic and Antarctic lichens; plankton from Palestine; and Australian seaweeds, were studied: and monographic work on various families and genera was continued.

#### *Congresses, etc.*

Mr. J. Ramsbottom, O.B.E. represented the Trustees at the centenary celebrations of the Botanical Society of Edinburgh in July. Dr. W. E. Swinton attended as representative of the Museum the Annual Conference of the Museums Association at Leeds in July. Mr. A. C. Townsend was the Museum delegate at the Annual Conference of the Library Association at Margate in June. Dr. H. D. Thomas attended the Annual Conference of the South Eastern Union of Scientific Societies at Oxford in July. Dr. W. D. Lang, F.R.S., directed a Whitsun Field Meeting of the Geologists' Association at Charmouth. Mr. J. R. Norman and Mr. G. I. Crawford attended a meeting of the "Challenger" Society at Edinburgh in September in conjunction with the International Congress of Geodesy and Geophysics.

The Director and several members of the scientific staff attended the meeting of the British Association at Blackpool in September.

#### *Advisory and Economic Activities.*

Dr. Calman continued to represent the Trustees on the Council of the British Freshwater Biological Association. Mr. N. B. Kinnear was appointed to the Estates Committee of the National Trust. In the Department of Zoology advice or assistance was given to various Government Departments, public bodies, companies and individuals regarding the Fur Trade; Whaling and Sealing; and the control of Rats, of the Grey Squirrel, and of other pests. From time to time H.M. Customs referred batches of plumage for opinion, and other problems connected with trade were submitted. Attention was given to the problem of the pollution of the sea by oil, particularly in its relation to birds. A large number of inquiries regarding Arachnida, chiefly from Great Britain, were dealt with. Specimens of *Liponyssus bacoti*, the tropical rat mite, continued to be received. Inquiries were answered concerning the molluscan vectors of *Schistosoma*, slugs and their effect on agriculture, the activities of marine-boring Mollusca, and on the distribution of Gastropoda yielding mother-of-pearl.

In the Department of Entomology advice was given with regard to many household, commercial, and agricultural pests; and work in connexion with the control of the bed-bug was continued in co-operation with the Ministry of Health and the Medical Research Council. Assistance was given in the production of a propaganda film on this subject entitled "The Red Army."

In the Department of Botany advice was given to the Admiralty on the subject of a seaweed which was causing a nuisance in the harbour of Gibraltar.

*Libraries.*

In the General Library a further transference of books was made from the main gallery to the iron gallery and the basement, only those volumes of periodicals dated since 1912 being now available in the main gallery and in the Central Hall bay outside the General Library door.

During the year 140 books, 1,156 volumes of periodicals, and 51 maps were acquired by purchase and presentation, and of the periodicals, 81 were new to the Library. The cataloguing of accessions for the whole Museum was carried out in the General Library, 1,713 books and 65 maps being dealt with during 1936.

Among the gifts received were:—

From the National Institute of Sciences of India, Calcutta: a complete set of the Institute's publication.

From the Royal Geographical Society Amsterdam: Scientific Results of the Snellius Expedition, 1929-30.

From the University of Calcutta: ten volumes of the Journal of the Department of Science, University of Calcutta, 1919-33.

From the Scott Polar Institute, Cambridge: The Polar Record, Nos. 1-11, 1931-36.

From Mr. H. N. Ridley, C.M.G., F.R.S.: twelve volumes of old and rare books (1797-1840) on mineralogy and geology.

From Dr. R. S. Bassler: a copy of "The North American Crinoidea Camerata," by C. Wachsmith and F. Springer (1897).

From Professor B. Neměc: a valuable facsimile copy of Matthiola's Herbal in Czech.

Fifty-eight volumes of Chilean periodicals and 42 separate scientific works were obtained for the Museum Library through the efforts of Mr. V. F. W. Cavendish-Bentinck, of the British Embassy at Santiago de Chile, as gifts from the institutions publishing them. These books were especially valuable, since extreme difficulty has for many years been experienced in obtaining Chilean publications.

*Additions to the Collections.*

The number of acquisitions in the several Departments during the year apart from specimens received too late for incorporation and from books, was as follows:—

Department.	Purchases.	Donations, etc.	Total.
Zoology ... ...	2,541	68,987	71,528
Entomology ... ...	20,325	203,521	223,846
Geology ... ...	8,989	29,842	38,831
Mineralogy ... ...	401	1,617	2,018
Botany ... ...	21,820	26,929	48,749
Totals ... ...	54,076	330,896	384,972

*Donations.*

The number of separate presents received during the year was 3,346, among the more interesting of them being :—

*Zoology.*

From Her Majesty Queen Mary : the skull and horns of Ngami Ox given to His late Majesty King George V, when Duke of York, during his South African tour; and the skin of a crocodile and a mounted specimen of a young crocodile from Kenya, both given to His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester during his travels in Kenya Colony.

From the Trustees of the American Museum of Natural History, New York : the types of fifteen sub-species of British and Irish birds from the Rothschild Collection, acquired by the American Museum in 1932. The Trustees stated that they felt that it would be helpful in the cause of science to return these specimens for permanent deposit in the British Museum.

From Lieut.-General Sir Henry Keary, K.C.B., K.C.I.E., D.S.O.: a collection of game trophies, mostly from Burma, including specimens of Thamin, Bantin, and Tahr.

From Lieut.-Colonel Sir Armine Brereton Dew, K.C.I.E.: a collection of 41 Kashmir game trophies, consisting mainly of skulls and horns of Markhor, Sheep, and Ibex.

From the Hon. Mrs. Louise Hunter : a collection of big game trophies from Africa and India, shot by her late husband, Mr. H. C. V. Hunter.

From Mr. William Falconer: 84 new species of British spiders.

From Mrs. Constance Thorburn: seventeen water-colour paintings by her late husband, the late Archibald Thorburn, the originals of the plates illustrating whales, seals, and bats, in Thorburn's "British Mammals."

*Entomology.*

From Professor G. H. E. Nuttall, F.R.S.: the whole of the material upon which he based his studies on the human louse, published in "Parasitology" (1917-1930), comprising 44 tubes and 168 microscope slides of the human louse, and other lice and insects of parasitological interest.

*Geology.*

From Dr. F. Mansfeld: 36 beautiful specimens of polished chalcedonized wood and 234 petrified plants, from presumed Triassic beds of Cerro Alto, Santa Cruz, Argentina.

From Dr. C. T. Trechmann: 206 invertebrates from the Mesozoic and 1,273 from the Tertiary of the West Indies (including 208 types and figured specimens).

From Mrs. E. M. Reid: 5,000 invertebrates from the Tertiary of Hampshire and Suffolk.

*Mineralogy.*

From Mr. F. N. Ashcroft: a valuable selection from his collection of Swiss minerals, comprising 651 specimens from 97 localities, including crystals of datolite, rutile, sphene, apatite, smoky-quartz, rock-crystal, and adularia.

From the Director, Geological Commission of Finland: an interesting collection of Finnish rocks and minerals.

From Mr. Arthur Champion, C.M.G.: a collection of over 200 rock specimens from the Turkana district of East Africa, including lavas and "bombs" from the Teleki volcano and the south end of Lake Rudolf.

From Towkay Yee Chee Seng and Towkay Chan Ying Tit, owners of the Hup Tuck Kongsi Mine, Selangor, Federated Malay States: a valuable and unusually large mass of cassiterite (tin-stone), showing numerous well-developed crystals of the mineral.

From the Earl of Ilchester, O.B.E.: an interesting series of nine lots of pebbles from the Chesil Beach, with a plan showing their relative positions and illustrating the probable direction in which the shingle had travelled.

From the Director of the Geological Survey of Nigeria: a piece (1,022 grams) and a fragment of the meteorite (pallasite) which fell near Udei Station, Benue River, Nigeria.

From the Museum of South Australia, Adelaide: a carefully labelled series of 58 australites (tektites) typically representative of the famous collection made by Mr. W. H. C. Shaw.

### *Botany.*

From Captain F. Kingdon Ward: a collection of 208 plants from the Naga Hills, and over 1,100 well preserved flowering plants and ferns from southern Tibet, including the unexplored region of Pome.

From Lieut.-Colonel F. M. Bailey, C.I.E.: a collection, comprising 488 flowering plants and 42 vascular cryptogams, from Nepal.

From the Dean of the Medical College, St. Bartholomew's Hospital: the botanical herbarium and museum specimens belonging to the College, including twelve volumes of flowering plants, collected mainly by Professors G. Henslow and C. C. Babington, and Mr. R. Tuck, between 1820 and 1835.

From Miss Nancy Lindsay and Mrs. A. Fullerton: a collection of 430 well preserved plants from Iran.

From the Hon. Mrs. de Beaumont: the botanical press formerly belonging to Antoine de Jussieu (1748-1836), one of the foremost systematic botanists.

From Dr. F. K. Sparrow: a collection of 37 microscopical preparations of aquatic phycomycetes, including a number of co-types and first British records.

From Mrs. M. Bloor: the cryptogamic herbarium of the late William Bellerby, her father, comprising 4,028 specimens, chiefly mosses and liverworts.

From Mr. C. J. Brooks: his valuable herbarium comprising about 2,650 ferns, collected mainly by himself in Sarawak, Borneo, Sumatra, Celebes, and Amboina; but including also specimens obtained by exchange from Professor Copeland and the late Prince Roland Bonaparte, a set of Schlechter's ferns from Papua, and some from New Guinea collected by the Rev. Copland King.

From Dr. G. N. Humphreys: a collection of 88 flowering plants, obtained by him at high altitudes, while with the Mount Everest (1936) Expedition.

*Bequests, etc.*

A volume of plants formerly belonging to Dr. John Hawkins (1739–1795), forming an interesting addition to eight similar volumes already in the Sloane Herbarium, and in the possession of the Trustees since 1753, has been accepted as a permanent loan from the Dorset County Museum.

The Trustees accepted the remainder, consisting of some 4,000 specimens, of the Joicey Collection of Lepidoptera, the major portion of which had been presented in 1934, on the condition that they had full discretion as to the disposal of the specimens.

*Purchases.*

Important purchases included : a collection of 1,100 bird skins from Central and West Africa; Major M. Connolly's collection of land and freshwater mollusca representing more than 3,000 species, including type specimens of 284 species; a collection of about 15,000 insects of various orders from British Honduras; 362 specimens of Diptera from British Columbia; 1,328 specimens of Hymenoptera from Brazil; a collection of more than 6,000 fossil invertebrates, chiefly brachiopods and trilobites, including forty new species, from the Ordovician of the Welsh borderland and of the Lake District; about 1,300 mammalian bones from East Anglia, a series specially collected to provide accurately dated material from successive stages of the Pleistocene; 195 Invertebrates, mostly ammonites, from the Jurassic of Britain, including 109 holotypes; a selection of interesting minerals collected by Mr. and Mrs. P. Medawar in Brazil; collections of minerals, including a table-cut dichroic aquamarine and specimens of kunzite, spodumene, tarnowitzite, and blockite; the moss herbarium of Fr. Verdoorn containing 3,500 specimens; a collection of 2,417 flowering plants and cryptogams from Albania, Austria, and Samoa; and 555 flowering plants from South West Africa.

*Collecting Expeditions.*

The Trustees made financial contributions towards an expedition to Northern Rhodesia by Miss C. K. Ricardo to collect the flora and fauna of Lake Shiwa Ngandu; towards a second entomological expedition to Southern India by Mr. G. M. Henry; towards a collecting expedition to Western China by Captain F. Kingdon-Ward; towards the cost of a collector to assist Mr. W. H. Ingrams during a trip to the Hadramaut in Arabia; towards a further botanical and ornithological expedition to Bhutan by Captain G. Sherriff and Mr. F. Ludlow; towards a survey of the birds of Ceylon, to be undertaken by the Director of the Colombo Museum, in conjunction with Captain W. A. Phillips; towards a tour in Yugoslavia by Mr. Vladimir Martino, for the purpose of collecting mammals, birds, and insects; and towards a collecting expedition to Iran by Miss N. Lindsay.

An expedition made by Captain G. Sherriff and Mr. F. Ludlow to Bhutan resulted in the acquisition for the Museum of about 900 bird skins belonging to some 200 species, 600 butterflies, and 1,660 extremely well preserved plants, including several new species of *Primula* and *Meconopsis* and the seeds of 450 varieties.

Mr. K. H. Chapman and Mr. G. A. Bisset, Assistant Keepers, in the course of an expedition to Morocco collected between three and four thousand insects, 800 of which were Orthoptera and 900 Lepidoptera.

Mr. L. R. Cox, Assistant Keeper, attended the Field Meeting of the Geologists' Association in the Rhone Valley, where he collected approxi-

mately 5,000 fossil invertebrates, a great number of which were new to the Museum.

Miss D. M. A. Bate again visited Palestine, where in collaboration with the Wellcome Archaeological Research Expedition to the Near East she continued her excavations in the Pleistocene at Bethlehem, and investigated Pliocene deposits in the coastal plain south-west of Jerusalem. Further remains of elephants, and of mammals new to the fauna of that region, were found.

*Loans, Exchanges, etc.*

His Majesty King Edward VIII placed on permanent loan in the Museum ten elephant tusks, formerly at Buckingham Palace, one pair of which was the record pair for the Indian Elephant; a mounted specimen of a rare Scarlet Breasted Parrot (*Neophema splendida*) formerly kept as a pet by His Majesty King George V; and a collection of fossils from Argentina, presented to His Majesty by Dr. Juan A. Dominguez, of the Argentine Ministry of the Interior.

The Duke of Devonshire placed on loan for one year in the Department of Minerals his crystal of emerald (the largest known) for exhibition in the Mineral Gallery.

A collection of specimens of radiolarian chert from localities in Scotland, which came to the Museum with the Murray collection of deep sea deposits; and a series of sedimentary rocks from the Rhaetic and Lower Lias in the west of England, Monmouthshire, and Glamorganshire, were transferred to the Museum of Practical Geology.

Specimens were exchanged with, and duplicate specimens presented to, numerous institutions and individuals.

*Publications.*

The following new works were published during the year:—

**Index to the Catalogue of the Works of Linnaeus.**

**Great Barrier Reef Reports.**

Vol. I, No. 11.

Vol. II, No. 8.

Vol. IV, Title Page.

Vol. V, Nos. 2, 3 and 4.

**John Murray Expedition to the Indian Ocean, 1933-34. Scientific Reports.**

Vol. I, Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, Title Page, and Index.

Vol. II, No. 1.

Vol. IV, Nos. 1 and 2.

**Mosquitoes of the Ethiopian Region** by G. H. E. Hopkins.

**Monograph of the Genus *Erebia*** by B. C. S. Warren.

**Flora of Jamaica, Volume VII**, by Dr. A. B. Rendle, F.R.S.

**Guide to the Exhibition Galleries of Geology and Palaeontology** (Second Edition).

**The Student's Index to the Collection of Minerals** (Twenty-seventh Edition).

**Instructions for Collectors**, No. 3.—**Reptiles, Amphibians and Fishes** (Fifth Edition).

**Economic Series**, No. 10.—**Marine boring animals injurious to submerged structures** (Second Edition).

The publication of the "Natural History Magazine" was discontinued after the October issue (Volume V, No. 36).

In addition to the above publications, 255 reports and descriptive papers, based on the collections, by members of the staff and others, were published in scientific periodicals.

C. TATE REGAN,

*Director.*

BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY).

1 April, 1937.

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BRITISH MUSEUM AND  
BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY)

Annual Report of the  
General Progress of the Museums  
for the year 1937

With a return of the Number of Persons  
admitted to the Museums, and a Statement  
of the Principal Objects added to the  
Collections

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1938

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PERSONS ADMITTED TO VIEW THE COLLECTIONS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM  
in each Year from 1932 to 1937, both Years included.

	1932		1933		1934		1935		1936		1937	
	Week-day.	Sun-day.										
January ...	87,082	12,129	59,041	10,664	112,218	13,214	81,651	9,120	83,347	11,423	89,916	13,691
February ...	77,578	11,582	54,188	8,927	78,728	13,633	72,855	10,301	83,640	11,507	80,801	12,063
March ...	94,835	10,581	68,536	10,196	86,083	12,358	76,918	13,841	87,372	15,661	95,082	10,420
April ...	79,357	10,662	77,714	11,835	94,606	15,094	87,145	10,355	102,214	13,102	83,439	7,661
May ...	79,733	12,056	72,981	10,223	85,210	9,704	74,399	8,779	83,493	15,181	84,790	12,595
June ...	73,776	8,269	82,940	11,246	74,625	8,466	86,385	12,317	101,123	* 11,096	71,929	9,498
July ...	80,769	12,922	83,616	14,643	82,668	12,639	89,593	9,333	121,862	12,963	92,654	11,771
August ...	95,219	8,614	98,808	10,694	100,392	13,257	101,271	9,824	106,207	14,609	95,113	12,519
September ...	80,935	10,566	87,370	12,451	79,137	13,927	88,404	15,215	105,068	12,037	85,432	10,237
October ...	72,661	14,378	88,806	15,862	89,240	11,157	92,767	12,911	107,376	10,199	71,747	14,750
November ...	68,969	9,738	79,368	11,743	81,525	12,373	92,336	13,419	94,979	14,743	75,406	10,512
December ...	63,414	7,702	85,077	14,855	80,223	12,372	88,824	15,017	94,802	10,296	73,560	8,885
Total Number of Persons admitted to view the Gene- ral Collections	954,328	129,199	933,046	143,339	1,044,655	148,194	1,032,548	140,432	1,171,483	152,817	999,869	134,602
	1,083,527		1,076,385		1,192,849		1,172,980		1,324,300		1,134,471	

\* North Entrance opened on June 22nd, 1936

## NUMBER OF VISITS OF STUDENTS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS

	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Reading Room	238,030	236,533	238,586	235,857	237,189	227,368
Newspaper Room* and Hendon Repository	10,023	4,548	5,986	6,288	7,875	7,900
Map Room	1,124	1,423	1,722	1,697	1,731	1,701
State Paper Room	...	...	...	...	...	...
Department of Manuscripts	...	...	...	...	...	...
Department of Oriental Printed Books and MSS.	...	...	...	...	...	...
Print Room	...	...	...	...	...	...
Egyptian and Assyrian Department	...	...	...	...	...	...
Greek and Roman Department	...	...	...	...	...	...
Galleries of Sculpture	...	...	...	...	...	...
British and Medieval Department	...	...	...	...	...	...
Department of Oriental Antiquities and of Ethnography†	...	...	...	...	...	...
Coin and Medal Room	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...
	292,260	292,476	294,591	292,038	296,161	284,664

\* Opened June 1932. † In June 1933 the Department of Ceramics and Ethnography was reconstituted.

\*\* Closed 30th May, 1932.

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

*Visitors.*

The total number of visitors to the British Museum was 1,134,471, as compared with 1,324,300 in 1936. Some decrease in numbers was apparent in the early months, and from June onwards the decline became more pronounced, monthly figures being considerably lower than the exceptionally high totals of the previous year. The total for the year is the lowest to be recorded since 1933.

*Students.*

The Reading Rooms of the Library, including the Colindale Newspaper Library, the Map Room and the State Paper Room, received 244,824 visits.

The difficulties of service caused by reconstruction recorded in the Reports for 1935 and 1936 continued; the number of volumes supplied to readers was 1,957,382, as compared with 2,139,014 in 1936.

44,835 manuscripts and 4,758 charters and seals were issued in the Student's Room of the Department of Manuscripts. 24,236 volumes were consulted in the Department of Oriental Printed Books and Manuscripts.

The total number of visits paid by students to the various departments of the Museum was 312,273, as compared with 314,333 in 1936.

*Photography and Casts.*

The number of books issued for photography was 3,608 (including 280 used at Colindale) and of manuscripts 2,340.

From other departments of the Museum, 3,984 objects were photographed.

206 casts and 19 new moulds were made.

In the Department of Coins and Medals, 5,276 casts and 122 electro-types have been made, and electro-types have also been made for the Egyptian, and British and Medieval Departments.

*Studio.*

The output of the Photographic Studio is shown in the following table :—

	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Negatives ... ...	3,374	3,429	3,782	4,090	4,655
Prints ... ...	9,642	8,750	9,533	11,853	11,310
Lantern Slides ...	1,075	1,302	872	660	1,046
Photostats ... ...	21,695	22,993	24,424	24,791	23,904

*Loans of Lantern Slides.*

2,140 lantern slides were issued on loan, as compared with 2,214 in 1936.

*Micro-films.*

Much increased use has been made of the apparatus recently installed for the making of micro-films, 707 printed books and MSS. having been copied by this process during the year, as compared with 50 in 1936.

The photographic equipment both of the Studio and of the Departments has been brought up to date.

*Publications.*

The sales of publications were :—

	1934	1935	1936	1937
Catalogues and major publications	5,870	6,671	5,843	7,604
Guide Books	15,594	13,866	18,034	20,612
Postcards, monochrome and coloured	426,731	461,223	579,757	630,117
Reproductions	17,296	19,876	16,712	19,249

The chief works issued during the year 1937 were :—

General Catalogue of Printed Books in the British Museum,  
Vol. XV Bern-Bibl.

Vol. XVII Bible : Part II. New Testament.

Vol. XVIII Bible : Part III. Appendix.

Vol. XIX Bibl-Blac.

Vol. XX Blac-Bobe.

Catalogue of the Coins of Ancient India. By John Allan.

Handbook to the Pottery and Porcelain of the Far East. By  
R. L. Hobson.

Handbook to the Gulbenkian Loan of Egyptian Sculpture.

Prints in the Dotted Manner and other Metal-cuts of the XV Century.  
By Campbell Dodgson.

Guide to the Exhibitions in the Prints and Drawings Gallery,  
1937 : from Watteau to Wilkie, and The Treatment of Water  
in European and Oriental Art.

The proceeds of sales, including volumes of the new edition of the General Catalogue, amounted to £14,911 (£11,527 in 1936).

*Buildings.*

The North-West Quadrant of the Iron Library, the North Library and other rooms attached to the Department of Printed Books have been reconstructed, and are now in use; the North Library was reopened to the public on 25th October. It is anticipated that work on the reconstruction of the North-East Quadrant will begin soon after April 1938.

The Bible Room was not quite ready for opening at the end of the year under review.

The reconstruction of the Upper Egyptian Galleries is now complete, and the galleries are now being furnished. The south end of the Egyptian Gallery, the First Roman Gallery and the King's Library have been redecorated.

*Temporary Exhibitions.*

An exhibition illustrating the history of Coronations in England, jointly organised by the Departments of Printed Books, Manuscripts, Prints and Drawings, and Coins and Medals, was opened in the King's Library on 1st May and withdrawn on 18th December. The exhibition of Egyptian Antiquities lent by Mr. C. S. Gulbenkian, in 1936, was continued throughout the year. The following temporary exhibitions were also held :—

Ben Jonson (Tercentenary of his death).

Papyri (in connection with the fifth International Congress of Papyrology).

Medical and Nursing (in connection with the International Nursing Conference).

Shorthand (in connection with the International Shorthand Conference).

From Watteau to Wilkie (Conversation, Portrait and Genre in the 18th and early 19th centuries).

The Treatment of Water in Oriental and European Art.

Flint Technique and Patination.

Stone implements from the Bombay district.

Prehistoric, Roman, and Saxon finds from Upminster.

Excavations on Eddisbury Hill, Cheshire.

A small standard case has been placed in the Central Saloon of the Prehistoric Room for the isolated exhibition during short periods of selected notable antiquities.

In the Iron Age Gallery, a series of photographs illustrating Saxon sculpture was exhibited.

*Representation at Congresses.*

Dr. H. I. Bell, accompanied by Mr. T. C. Skeat, represented the Trustees at the International Congress of Papyrology at Oxford. Mr. J. Allan and Mr. C. F. C. Hawkes represented the Trustees at the Annual Conference of the Museums Association at Newcastle. Mr. A. Esdaile represented the Trustees at the Annual Conference of the Library Association at Scarborough. Dr. Plenderleith attended the International Conference on Excavations at Cairo.

*Acquisitions.*

The total number of objects added to the collections in 1937 was 432,449, more by 52,618 than in 1936, and by 19,011 than in 1935.

The figures for the several Departments were as follows :—

Printed Books :	1936	1937
Books and Pamphlets ... ... ...	40,096	37,942
Serials and Parts of Volumes ... ...	82,478	96,128
Maps and Atlases ... ... ...	1,252	2,021
Music ... ... ...	11,390	11,404
Newspapers (Single Numbers) ... ...	264,096	263,402
Miscellaneous ... ... ...	3,351	3,054
Manuscripts ... ... ...	261	302
Oriental Printed Books and MSS. ...	5,187	3,265
Prints and Drawings ... ... ...	4,430	3,335
Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities ...	1,075	881
Greek and Roman Antiquities ...	120	88
British and Medieval Antiquities ...	2,047	1,100
Oriental Antiquities and Ethnography ...	2,785	4,049
Coins and Medals ... ... ...	13,010	5,478
	431,578	432,449

Full description of the more important objects acquired during the year may be found as usual in the *British Museum Quarterly*. The National Art-Collections Fund, the Friends of the National Libraries, the Contemporary Art Society, and the Christy Trustees have again added to the collections of the Museum.

The chief acquisitions of the various Departments were :—

*Printed Books.*

By donation :—

From the Friends of the National Libraries : Map of Europe, hither Asia and North Africa, by Giampietro Contarini, Venice, 1564, and G. Robertson, A Genealogical Account of the Principal Families in Ayrshire, three volumes and supplement, Irvine, 1823-27.

From Dr. S. J. Madge : a set of fifteen volumes in typescript relating to the Surveys and Sales of Crown Lands, 1649-60.

From Sir Charles Sherrington, O.M. : a further gift of early books, including the following :—

Horace, *De arte poetica*, J. Badius, Paris, 1503.

Horace, *Sermones et epistole*, J. Philippe for J. Granjon, Paris, 1506.

Vergil, *Bucolica cum commento*, G. Soquand, Paris, 1527.

Ovid, *Fastorum libri cum annotationibus*, G. Soquand, Paris, 1528.

By purchase :—

By far the most important acquisition of the year has been the Ashley Library, a collection, formed by the late Mr. T. J. Wise, of original editions (and manuscripts) of the English poets, many very rare and some unique, and all in perfect condition. This famous collection contains both printed books and manuscripts, but is to be kept together, and in a special room, in cases presented by Mrs. Wise.

Among other acquisitions by purchase the following may be mentioned :—

Epigrammata in obitum Alexandri pueri Senensis, Vitus Pucher, Rome, circa 1477.

Laurentius Valla, *De vero bono*, Hermann of Nassau & R. Loeffs, Lovanii, 1483.

John of Hoveden, *Carmen rhythmicum de passione domini*, Matthias van der Goes, Antwerp, circa 1490.

L. Cappel, *Summarius de interdicto excommunicationis*, Printer of Hundorn, Erfurt, circa 1495.

*Liber abbatis ysach de ordinacione anime*, J. Gumiell, Barchinone, 1497.

*Miracoli della gloriosa Vergine Maria*, Florence, circa 1500.

Robert Whitcombe, *Janua Divorum, or the Lives and Histories of the Heathen Gods, Goddesses, & Demi-Gods*, F. Kirkman, London, 1678.

Durandus, *Rationale diuinorum officiorum*, J. Varela, Granada, 1504.

*Historie van sent Vrsulen und den eelf dusent Junfferen*, Cologne, circa 1505.

*Die ghetijden van onser lieuer vrouwen*, F. Regnault, Paris, circa 1518.

L. Poncella de Francia y de sus grandes fechos en armas, J. Cromberger, Seville, 1533.

J. de Monteux, *Commentaire de la conservation de santé, et prolongation de vie*, J. de Tournes, Lyon, 1559.

Des weitberuhmten G. Fabricii Wund-Artzney gantzes Werck, J. Aubry, Hanau, J. Beyer, Franckfurth, 1652.

L. Galvani, *Memorie sulla elettricità animale*, Bologna, 1797.

A collection of eleven first editions of works by Beethoven, including a perfect set of the instrumental parts of the Pastoral Symphony (op. 68).

A collection of sixty-two first editions of works by Franz Schubert, including Schwanengesang, Der Erlkönig, Gretchen am Spinnrade, etc.

### *Manuscripts.*

#### By donation :—

From the Friends of the National Libraries : eleven leaves of a magnificent copy of the Vulgate, executed in Northumbria about A.D. 700-715.

From the National Art-Collections Fund : nine leaves from an illuminated MS. of Frontinus, Strategemata, executed in Italy, late 14th century.

From thirty-nine friends of the late Dr. Montague Rhodes James : the M. R. James Memorial MS., a Psalter executed in the diocese of Durham, 14th century, of especial importance as proving the English origin of Egerton MS. 1894.

From Earl Baldwin of Bewdley on behalf of Miss E. G. Norton : a holograph draft of Rudyard Kipling's 'Recessional.'

From the Richards Press, through Mr. John Gawsworth and Mr. G. H. Wiggins: two volumes of correspondence of A. E. Housman with the Richards Press, Ltd., 1927-1936.

From Miss Maud D. M. Petre: five volumes of correspondence of Baron von Hügel and Father George Tyrrell, 1897-1909.

From Mr. Louis C. G. Clarke, through the Friends of the National Libraries: a volume of autographs of Diderot, the Duchesse du Maine, the Comtesse de Beauharnais, etc., from the Morrison Collection.

From the Princesse Marthe Bibesco: the autograph MS. of Anatole France's 'Histoire de Doña Maria d'Avalos et de Don Fabricio, Duc d'Andria,' here called 'Chronique Napolitaine.'

From Mrs. Helen Thomas through the Edward Thomas Memorial Fund: a volume of autograph poems of Edward Thomas.

Bequeathed by the artist: two volumes containing the autograph signatures of Mr. P. A. de László's sitters, 1899-1936.

From Mr. Thomas H. Russell and Mrs. Alexander Scott: thirty-one volumes of account-books and correspondence of the Russell family of Birmingham, 1762-1856.

From the Right Hon. Viscount Clifden: eighteen volumes of supplementary Hardwicke Papers.

#### *Oriental Printed Books and Manuscripts.*

Five Arabic manuscripts, including a description of the rites and ceremonies of the Pilgrimage and the shrines in the Mecca district, 17th century, a treatise on astronomy, 16th century, and a collection of popular songs in the vernacular from Syria and Egypt, 19th century.

Three Chinese manuscripts, including notes on the eighty-two Miao tribes in the province of Kweichow, 19th century, and unpublished official records of the latter part of the reign of Tao Kuang.

Two Persian manuscripts, including a treatise on astronomy, copied in A.H. 982.

#### *Prints and Drawings.*

##### By donation:—

From the National Art-Collections Fund: Pierre Mongin: Park Scene (Gouache).

From Mrs. Ambrose McEvoy: Ambrose McEvoy: seventy water-colours and drawings.

Bequeathed by the artist: Sir Charles John Holmes, K.C.V.O.: Series of 75 sketch-books.

From Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Collins Baker: Henry Tonks: sixteen drawings (pencil, pastel and water-colour).

From Mr. L. G. Esmond Morse in memory of his father, Sydney Morse: Sir J. E. Millais: Illustration to 'A Lost Love' (water-colour).

From Miss Nancy McIntosh: W. S. Gilbert: 197 sketches (original studies for the 'Bab Ballads') 1898.

From the National Art-Collections Fund: ten mezzotints from the Erdmann collection.

Bequeathed by Mrs. T. Brocklebank: Collection illustrating the portraits of the Royal and reigning Houses of Europe.

From Mrs. Breun: H. A. J. Breun: MS. Catalogue of Engravings, chiefly engraved portraits.

By purchase:—

Nine mezzotints from the Erdmann collection.

Sir Francis Seymour Haden: A collection of over 300 etchings.

By exchange:—

The Monogrammist A.G.: The Crucifixion, Line-engraving, printed in the Canon of a Würzburg Missal (1491).

Guercino. Theatrical Performance (Drawing).

Sir Anthony Van Dyck: Study for the painting of the Duc d'Arenberg at Holkham.

Nicolas Poussin: Holy Family and a landscape, sheet of studies and MS.

### *Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities.*

By donation:—

From Mr. David R. Davis through the National Art-Collections Fund, in memory of Captain Leigh J. Davis, 19th London Regiment, killed in action in France, 15th September, 1916: an Egyptian bronze group of the late period, showing a priest pouring libations on an offering table.

From the Trustees of "Seven Pillars of Wisdom": a Persian silver dagger-hilt, with reliefs, showing lions, of about the 8th century B.C.

From the National Art-Collections Fund: a limestone slab carved in relief with a figure of a man-headed sphinx, from Persia.

From Mr. H. St. John B. Philby, C.I.E.: nine stones with Himyarite inscriptions, from South Arabia.

By purchase:—

Four painted pots from Persia (Tepe Siyalk and Nihawand).

Two polychrome glass figures, from Egypt.

A collection of seals, tablets and plaques from Babylonia and two scarabs from Syria.

By excavation:—

A collection of pottery and some related flint and metal objects from two expeditions of Sir Aurel Stein in Makran and Southern Persia, during the years 1931-33.

A collection of pottery and some related stone and metal objects from Sir Aurel Stein's expedition in Fars, supported by the British School of Archæology in Iraq.

An important collection of Syrian antiquities ranging from about 3000 B.C. to 1500 B.C., of every type, from Mr. M. E. L. Mallowan's excavations at Chager Bazar and Brak, in the northern Habur valley. These excavations are supported by Mr. Mallowan, the British School of Archaeology in Iraq and private subscribers.

A collection of antiquities dating from the middle of the second millennium, from Sir Leonard Woolley's excavations at Atchana.

On loan :—

The Trustees have accepted on loan for exhibition for an indefinite period a bronze lion's head from Ukhudud, Najran, S. Arabia, belonging to H.R.H. the Emir Sa'ud, of Sa'udi Arabia, and fifteen ostraca with Hebrew inscriptions of the 6th century B.C., referring to the siege of Lachish, from the excavations of the Wellcome and Marston expedition in Palestine, at Tall al Duwair, belonging to the Wellcome Trustees.

*Greek and Roman Antiquities.*

By donation :—

From the Egypt Exploration Society : thirty-four Late Mycenaean fragments from Tell el Amarna.

By purchase :—

Helmet with volute decoration, found near Bolzano, Hellenistic type.

Bit, decorated with horse-protomes and birds, Etruscan, c. 400 B.C.

Sard, lenticular intaglio, pattern of crescents, amuletic class, Middle Minoan.

Sard, glandular intaglio, bull and lion, Late Minoan.

On loan :—

Youthful male head of life-size, broken from a bronze statue, from the Yemen, circa 1st century A.D., deposited on loan by His Majesty the King to whom it was presented as a Coronation gift by H.H. the Sultan of the Yemen.

*British and Medieval Antiquities.*

Acquisitions include very many finds made on sites in Great Britain.

By donation :—

From Mr. J. Reid Moir, F.R.S. : a series of flint implements from the Ipswich district, found below the Crag, in Boulder Clay, and in the Orwell Gravels.

From Mr. A. Leslie Armstrong, F.S.A. : a series of Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic flint implements, from Mother Grundy's Parlour, Creswell Crags, Derbyshire.

From Dr. Gerhard Bersu, Hon. F.S.A. : a type-series of Neolithic pottery and implements from the donor's excavations at the Goldberg, near Nördlingen, Württemberg.

From Miss F. Lefroy : a group of bronzes and other antiquities from continental sites, formerly in the collection of the late J. W. Flower, F.G.S.

From Mr. G. H. Beechene : a leaden seal-die of William Fitz-Ralph, found at Exton, Rutland, late 12th century.

## By purchase :—

A bronze shaft-hole axe-head of Italian Late Bronze Age type, found at Hengistbury Head, Hampshire.

Two gold rings with niello inlay, from the Guilhon collection, one Merovingian, the other Carolingian.

Two silver annular brooches with niello inlay, found at Coventry, with thirteenth-century coins.

*Oriental Antiquities.*

A further instalment of the Eumorfopoulos Collection of Chinese antiquities was paid for and 424 objects added in consequence: the final division of the remainder with the Victoria and Albert Museum was provisionally arranged, but remained to be carried through in 1938. Other acquisitions of note were :—

## By donation :—

From Mr. George Eumorfopoulos: fourteen objects of unglazed pottery said to have been found near Chengte, Honan.

From Mr. John Sparks: a figure of Pu-tai Ho-Shang, glazed stoneware, dated 2nd or 20th year of Ch'êng Hua, from a temple near Chengchow, Honan.

From Mr. Oscar Raphael: part of a wooden beam with ornamental bronze attachment in position, from the Tomb of Lacquered Beams at Ku Wei Ts'un, North Honan.

From Sir Leonard Woolley's excavations at Al Mina, North Syria: sixty objects of earthenware, glass and bronze.

From the Islamische Kunstabteilung, Staatliche Museen, Berlin, in recognition of a contribution by Sir Percival David, Bart.: 82 fragments, 3rd century onwards, from excavations at Ctesiphon.

From the National Art-Collections Fund: four Japanese sliding panels, painted with birds and flowers of the four seasons, Kano school, circa 1600.

By bequest of the late Charles Shannon: 388 prints and drawings, being part of the Oriental section of the Ricketts and Shannon collection.

## By purchase :—

In addition to the penultimate portion of the Eumorfopoulos Chinese Collection: a large series of pottery fragments, etc., from sites visited in Makran and Southern Persia by Sir Aurel Stein.

*Ethnography.*

## By donation :—

From Capt. R. P. Wild: a large archaeological and ethnological series from various sites in the Gold Coast and French West Africa.

From Mr. H. St. J. Philby, C.I.E.: a collection of pottery, baskets and other ethnographical objects, from Arabia.

## By purchase :—

A ceremonial staff with gold mounts and head, formerly the property of Nana Kobina Amponsah II, Ohene of Busumtwi Stool, Ashanti, Gold Coast.

A large ethnographical series, including baskets, tools and weapons, from the Bamileke tribe, Cameroons under French Mandate.

Four wooden masks, a slit gong and a wooden trumpet, also from the Bamileke tribe.

A large ethnographical series from the Ovimbundu, Kwanyama and other tribes of Central and Southern Angola.

Two ancient pottery vessels from Oaxaca, Mexico.

A carved stone standing figure holding a double-bladed axe, from Costa Rica.

An ethnographical series from the WeiWei and Wapisiana Indians, and an archaeological series from British Guiana.

Deposited by the Christy Trustees :—

A Maya Dictionary, composed by J. P. Perez.

A large wooden seat with carved figures, a carved wooden door frame in four pieces, and an old wooden mask, from the Bamileke tribe, Cameroons under French Mandate.

Thirteen pottery vases from ancient Peru, mainly of Nasca style.

#### *Coins and Medals.*

By donation :—

From Mr. E. S. G. Robinson : two of three tetradrachms of Mende of the 5th century B.C., showing Dionysus holding a wine-cup, riding on his ass, and a unique gold stater of Cilicia, struck by a Persian satrap in the second quarter of the 4th century B.C.

From Mr. H. C. Hoskier : a gold quinarius of Faustina II, with reverse CONCORDIA DIVA.

From Mr. J. B. Howe : a unique gold mohur of the Moghul Emperor Humayun (A.D. 1530-1556), one of the earliest known Moghul coins struck in India.

By purchase :—

A denarius of Diadumenian as Augustus, one of the two first known.

Also, as usually, large selections from hoards of Roman coins purchased from the finders under the law of Treasure Trove.

#### *Laboratory.*

A reorganization both of accommodation and of staff, allowing greater specialization, enabled the Laboratory to carry out more work of cleaning and preservation than even in the previous year. A large quantity of material from the Museum collections, notably a further section of the Department of British and Medieval Antiquities, has been cleaned and reconditioned. Objects submitted have in some cases been proved modern, in other cases, though previously suspected, have been authenticated; an example of the latter class was an important Sumerian head which was shown by the presence of certain salts to be from the same quarry at least as the body, to which it fitted.

The electrolytic method of cleaning has proved valuable, especially for heavily rusted iron and for corroded coins in bulk; Captain A. Lovett Cameron, who has continued to give honorary service in the Laboratory, used this method in cleaning the 16,000 Roman silver coins from the Dorchester hoard.

So far as space and staff allowed and their importance justified, objects belonging to other bodies have been reconditioned. The most important were the Bishop Flambard Crozier from Durham Cathedral, and a large and badly crushed bronze bowl from the National Museum of Wales.

The Museum collection of photographic films, at present numbering some 1,500, is now adequately housed in a fireproof store adjoining and in the care of the Laboratory.

A fumigating chamber has been installed, with the aid of the Laboratory staff, in the Sub-Department of Ethnography, for the preservation of specimens from insects.

JOHN FORSDYKE,

*Director and Principal Librarian.*

BRITISH MUSEUM.

*April, 1938.*

PERSONS ADMITTED TO VIEW THE COLLECTIONS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY) in each Year from 1932 to 1937, both years included

NUMBER OF VISITS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF STUDY.

	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Zoology (including Art Students)	11,840	13,828	15,019	14,334	13,911	15,126
Entomology	4,775	4,539	4,862	5,160	4,427	3,424
Geology	1,784	1,764	2,450	2,113	2,246	2,625
Mineralogy	341	423	661	761	866	938
Botany	4,260	4,210	3,842	3,904	3,506	3,393
General Library...	538	615	849	975	903	822
Total	23,538	25,359	27,683	27,247	25,859	26,228

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY).

The total number of visitors during 1937 was 520,463 as compared with 638,141 in 1936. The visitors on Sunday afternoons numbered 109,151. The number of persons attending the tours of the Official Guide Lecturers during 1937 was 23,891, an increase of 444 on the figure for 1936. The weekly biology broadcasts for school children, received in the Board Room, and followed by short tours of the galleries to illustrate the lectures were attended during the year by 774 children. Tours were also arranged for 544 children who had listened to the broadcasts at school.

Her Majesty Queen Mary and Their Royal Highnesses the Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret Rose visited the Museum on 1st November, and H.R.H. Princess Paul of Yugoslavia, accompanied by her two sons, on 18th September.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. Campbell Smith, M.C., T.D., was appointed to the Keepership of Minerals on the retirement of Dr. G. F. Herbert Smith; and Dr. F. W. Edwards was appointed Deputy Keeper in the Department of Entomology.

Lack of adequate accommodation for the collections continued to be the outstanding problem with which the Museum was faced and the Trustees maintained their pressure on the Treasury for the provision of the buildings necessary to enable the collections to be properly arranged and effectively used.

Prior to his death in August the late Lord Rothschild had informed the Trustees of his intention to bequeath to them his zoological Museum at Tring and its contents; and his Will gave effect to this intention with the condition that the museum should be used for zoological research as an annexe to the British Museum. Although no formal undertaking could be given the Treasury agreed to approach Parliament for the funds necessary to maintain the Tring Museum.

An Air Raid Precautions Officer was appointed for the British Museum and the British Museum (Natural History). He attended a course at the Civilian Anti-Gas School at Falfield, and qualified as a first-class instructor. A scheme of air raid precautionary measures for the Museum was prepared in accordance with the general instructions issued by the Home Office and included the training of the Museum staff as a whole and the organization of special first-aid, fire-fighting, and decontamination services.

### *Exhibition Galleries.*

In the Department of Zoology considerable progress was made with the installation of exhibits in the New Whale Hall, where the construction of a life-size model of a Blue Whale, 90 feet long, was commenced. Improvements were also made in the Bird Gallery.

In the Department of Geology a skeleton of *Smilodon californicus*, a mammal from the Pleistocene of California, was mounted and placed in the Fossil Mammal Gallery. Dioramas of Triassic and Liassic Fishes were added to the series in the Fossil Fish Gallery, and a large slab containing *Uintacrinus*, a crinoid from the Cretaceous of U.S.A. was fixed to the wall in Gallery VIII.

New exhibits of the Ashcroft Collection of Swiss Minerals and of 'Natural Glasses' were arranged in the Mineral Gallery. Cases at the west

end of the Gallery were re-arranged and provided with internal lighting for exhibits of minerals of the pegmatite veins, of the metalliferous veins, and of metamorphic rocks and orbicular granites.

#### *Study Collections.*

The usual work of naming, labelling, registering, and incorporating accessions continued in all Departments. As in previous years, the Trustees are much indebted to numerous workers who gave their services voluntarily, many of whom worked continuously throughout the year. Research workers were given access to the collections, and were assisted in their investigations.

Great improvements were made in the Osteological Room, where repainting and relighting has converted a dismal basement into a pleasant working place. An X-ray room (the apparatus being a gift from an anonymous donor) was installed and has proved to be of great use in various sections of the Department of Zoology. Much research, revisionary work, and re-arrangement was done throughout this Department; in particular a great deal of time being devoted to the working out of various large Antarctic marine collections.

In the Department of Entomology considerable advance was made with the re-organization of the British collections of Lepidoptera, Diptera, and Hymenoptera. In the general collections of Diptera attention was chiefly paid to revisional work on crane flies, and to certain brachycerous families, notably the Asilidae. In the Lepidoptera the immense task of incorporating the Oberthür, Joicey, Adams, and Fruhstorfer collections was continued, and the amalgamation of the Frey and Stainton collections with the general collection was at last after many years completed. In the beetles, a revision of the Carabidae of New Zealand was commenced, and substantial progress was made with the re-arrangement of the Dytiscidae and Gyrinidae. In the Hymenoptera the incorporation of the Donisthorpe collection of ants was completed. In the Orthoptera a long overdue re-organization of the Gryllidae and Tettigoniidae was in progress. The Neuropterous orders were strikingly enriched from the Tillyard collections. The systematic arrangement of the Isoptera (Termites) was completed, and, after a lapse of many years, work was begun again on the Aptygota. Close collaboration with the Imperial Institute of Entomology continued, and assistance or advice was tendered to many government departments, numerous business firms, and private individuals as a result of inquiries concerning insect pests.

In the Department of Geology much work was done on Pleistocene Mammals from East Africa, Chelonia, French Miocene and Pliocene Gastropoda and Lamellibranchia, Inferior Oolite Lamellibranchia, Triassic Arthropoda from Australia, Jurassic Brachiopoda, Palaeozoic Corals, and Eocene Plants. 142 thin sections of various fossils and 40 plant cuticle preparations were made for the purpose of study. Many casts were prepared and further progress was made with the skeletal impression of the Amphibian *Cyclotosaurus*. The transference of the fossil fishes from wall-cases in the Gallery to new storage cases in the basement was continued.

In the Department of Mineralogy all specimens received were identified, labelled, and registered. X-ray photographs were taken of 177 mineral specimens and provided bases for very interesting work on a variety of minerals. Twenty chemical analyses were made. Large

rock collections made in Arabia by Mr. H. St. J. B. Philby were studied. Further work was done on the rocks of Kenya Colony and Nyasaland, and of South Victoria Land, Antarctica; and on the granite of the Ross of Mull. In the oceanographical section investigations on glauconite, manganese nodules, and the bottom deposits collected by the Murray Expedition were commenced.

Work in the Department of Botany consisted largely in the naming and incorporation of collections and re-arrangement of specimens in accordance with recent monographs. Particular subjects of study were flowering plants from Ruwenzori, Sudan, Angola, Gulf of Guinea, Borneo, Tibet, Bhutan, and various Arctic regions; Asiatic and West Indian ferns; Arctic and Antarctic lichens; diatoms from Palestine and North America; and Australian and American marine algae.

*Congresses, etc.*

Mr. W. N. Edwards, Deputy Keeper, attended as the delegate both of the Museum and of His Majesty's Government the Seventeenth International Geological Congress held in Moscow in July. Lt.-Col. W. Campbell Smith, M.C., T.D., Keeper of Minerals, attended a Meeting in Paris of the French Association for the Advancement of Science. Dr. W. E. Swinton, Assistant Keeper, represented the Trustees at the Forty-eighth Annual Conference of the Museums Association at Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Mr. R. B. Benson, Assistant Keeper, attended the Congress of the Society for British Entomology at Reading. Dr. H. D. Thomas, Assistant Keeper, presided over the Geological Section of the Annual Congress of the South Eastern Union of Scientific Societies held at Hastings. Mr. J. Ramsbottom, O.B.E., Keeper of the Department of Botany, received the honorary degree of Doctor of Science of the University of Coimbra on the occasion of celebrations held to mark the fourth centenary of the transfer of the University from Lisbon to Coimbra. The Director and several members of the scientific staff attended the meeting of the British Association at Nottingham in September.

*Advisory and Economic Activities.*

Dr. Anna B. Hastings, Assistant Keeper, was appointed to represent the Museum on the Council of the Freshwater Biological Association of the British Empire; and Mr. N. D. Riley, Keeper of the Department of Entomology, on a Committee formed to direct the phenological-ecological research previously carried out under the auspices of the Royal Meteorological Society.

Large numbers of questions of economic importance continue to be referred to the Museum by private individuals as well as by public authorities and departments. Advice was given to the Foreign and Colonial Offices regarding collecting expeditions; to the Colonial Office, in the preparation of the portions relating to fauna and flora in a Handbook of Aden; to the Economic Advisory Council, on the subject of the fauna and flora of Fiji and the western Pacific islands; to the Government of Nyasaland with regard to a proposal to introduce large exotic fishes into Lake Nyasa; to the Air Ministry upon a proposal to establish a bombing range at Pembrey, Carmarthenshire; to the Admiralty regarding the nuisance caused by seaweed at Gibraltar; and to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries concerning the Grey Squirrel. Consideration was also given to the question of the pollution of the sea and shore by oil.

In the Department of Zoology in particular advice or assistance was given regarding the fur trade; whaling and sealing; the control of rats, rabbits, and other pests; the importation of plumage; and the protection of birds in Fiji and the Seychelles. Collections of ticks from British Somaliland were worked out in connexion with the spread of relapsing fever and diseases of domestic animals. The tropical rat mite, *Liponyssus bacoti*, was found to be a serious pest in factories and workshops which harboured the Black Rat. Inquiries were answered concerning the molluscan vectors of *Schistosoma*, slugs in cellars, and aquatic snails blocking water-pipes.

#### *Libraries.*

In the General Library a further transference of books was made from the main gallery to the iron gallery and the basement, only those volumes of periodicals dated since 1913 now being kept in the main Library. A departmental Library was formed for the Department of Entomology. During the year 222 books, 1,594 volumes of periodicals, and 276 maps were acquired by purchase and presentation, and of the periodicals 71 were new to the Library. The cataloguing of accessions for the whole Museum was carried out in the General Library, 2,058 books and 36 maps being dealt with during 1937.

Among the gifts received were :—

From Professor J. Stanley Gardiner, F.R.S.: thirteen scientific works, six of which were new to the Museum Library.

From the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia: a copy of "A Glossary to Say's Conchology" (1832).

From Mrs. E. C. L. Norman: the scientific correspondence, drawings and other documents, relating to the marine zoological work of the late Canon A. N. Norman (1831-1918).

From Mr. Charles Dru Drury: the correspondence of Dru Drury, the celebrated naturalist (1725-1803).

From the Secretary of State for India: two volumes of the original drawings of Donovan's "British Butterflies."

From Mr. H. St. J. K. Donisthorpe: a valuable collection of natural history books, chiefly on ants.

#### *Additions to the Collections.*

The number of acquisitions in the several Departments during the year apart from specimens received too late for incorporation and from books, was as follows :—

Department.	Purchases.	Donations, etc.	Total.
Zoology ... ... ...	9,056	24,481	33,537
Entomology ... ... ...	232,826	94,939	327,765
Geology ... ... ...	2,073	53,597	55,670
Mineralogy ... ... ...	867	1,493	2,360
Botany ... ... ...	15,881	48,536	64,417
<b>Totals</b> ... ...	<b>260,703</b>	<b>223,046</b>	<b>483,749</b>

*Donations.*

The number of separate presents received during the year was 3,203, among the more interesting of them being :—

*General.*

From Mr. H. St. J. B. Philby: a collection of 1,600 zoological specimens, insects, plants, minerals, and rocks, from an unexplored region in South West Arabia.

From Mr. J. L. Chaworth-Musters: a collection (including 82 birds and 358 well-preserved flowering plants) obtained on an expedition to the Atlas Mountains.

*Zoology.*

From His Majesty the King: the skin with mounted head of a Black Leopard from India.

From His Majesty the King of Bulgaria: the skull of an East Balkan Domestic Pig.

From the Bombay Natural History Society: 574 birds, including eight types, collected during a survey of the Eastern Ghats.

*Entomology.*

From Miss Emma Hutchinson: the Hutchinson collection of Lepidoptera made in Herefordshire (1860-1936), numbering about 10,000 specimens, and contained in four cabinets.

From Mrs. P. Tillyard: a collection of 500 mayflies and 700 dragonflies, mainly from Australia and New Zealand, and including many types of species described by the late Dr. R. J. Tillyard.

*Geology.*

From Mrs. Eleanor M. Reid: fossil fruits and seeds, illustrating her researches on the Pliocene flora of Castle Eden, Durham.

From Monsieur P. Marty (in conjunction with Mrs. Reid): 694 specimens of the Pliocene flora of the Pont-de-Gail, France, of which he was the discoverer.

From Miss Alice Gray and her sisters: a collection of about 20,000 invertebrate fossils from the Ordovician and Silurian rocks of the Girvan district.

From Mr. C. T. A. Gaster: over 14,000 fossil invertebrates, collected by him from the Chalk of Sussex.

*Mineralogy.*

From Sir Ernest Oppenheimer and Mr. H. T. Dickinson: a fine diamond of four carats from Alexander Bay, Namaqualand.

From the Directors of Meru Tin, Ltd.: a massive (104 lb.) specimen of cassiterite, or tinstone, from Kinta, Perak, F.M.S.

From Mr. Felix F. Wilson: a small sealed bottle containing alluvial gold from Leadhills, Lanarkshire.

*Botany.*

From Mr. H. E. Box: a collection of 396 plants from Antigua and Barbuda.

From Captain G. Sherriff: 656 flowering plants and ferns collected on his recent expedition to Bhutan.

From Mr. F. Ludlow: flowering plants from Kashmir.

From Mrs. Hilda Drabble: the herbarium formed by her husband, the late Dr. Eric Drabble, and herself, comprising 25,000 plants chiefly British, many being from areas hitherto poorly represented in the Museum collections.

From Mrs. G. Grattan: wash and colour drawings left by her father, Dr. A. H. Church, F.R.S., including those (and some of the manuscript) prepared for future volumes of his "Types of Floral Mechanisms," (1908).

From Dr. H. G. Wager: a well preserved collection of about 1,100 flowering plants and 50 cryptogams, made on the British East Greenland Expedition (1935-6), from the southern end of Knud Rasmussen's Land.

From Mr. N. J. Hanbury Tracy: a collection of 211 well preserved flowering plants, chiefly from the Pashu district, Eastern Tibet.

*Bequests.*

The late Mrs. Kate Murray Pontifex bequeathed to the Museum twenty-nine selected mineral specimens, including a fine black opal pendant and a large mass of crocoite crystals; and her husband, Mr. R. D. Pontifex, presented the remainder of her collection together with a twenty-drawer cabinet.

The late Mr. E. T. Browne, a well known marine zoologist, bequeathed to the Museum his collection of zoological specimens, containing a large and very well-preserved series of British and foreign Medusæ, with a full card index, and cases.

*Purchases.*

Important purchases included a collection of birds and mammals from Greenland; the remainder of the Fruhstorfer collection of butterflies consisting of 48,677 specimens, including 3,871 types; the Paravicini collection of approximately 60,000 specimens of Microlepidoptera; a collection of over 4,000 specimens and microscopic preparations (representing nearly 100 forms) of South African Acanthodriline Oligochaeta; 9,000 Rhopalocera, from the Near East; a collection of Coleoptera especially Cetoniid beetles comprising 11,000 specimens, including 200 types; the Myers collection of Hemiptera and Cicadidae, from America and New Zealand; a collection of about 800 mineral specimens rich in "rare earth" and uranium minerals; a single mass of meteoric iron weighing 181 lb. from Box-Hole, Central Australia; an unusually fine specimen of clear blue, step-cut, flawless topaz; several pieces of meteorites; a collection of 2,425 flowering plants and cryptogams from the Aegean Islands; and a collection of 3,043 flowering plants from Brazil.

The skeleton of a male Sperm Whale 59 feet long, stranded at Bridlington in January, was acquired for the Museum.

*Collecting Expeditions.*

The first year's work of the survey of the birds of Ceylon carried out by Captain W. A. Phillips in conjunction with the Colombo Museum resulted in the acquisition of about 400 well prepared bird skins; and a second grant was made towards the next season's work. Mr. G. M. Henry, of the Colombo Museum, in the course of his expedition to Southern India, obtained 7,700 specimens, 4,000 of which were Orthoptera, for the Department of Entomology. Miss L. E. Cheesman on her expedition to Dutch New Guinea obtained for the Museum some 26,000 specimens of insects, a large proportion of which belonged to species hitherto unrepresented in the collections. The Museum received as the result of Mr. Vladimir Martino's collecting expedition in Yugoslavia 300 mammal skins and 84 birds, the mammals including types of seven new forms discovered and described by Mr. Martino. The Department of Botany received over 1,000 sheets of plant specimens collected by Dr. Nicholas Polunin in Southern Greenland. Miss Nancy Lindsay collected 816 botanical specimens and a number of insects for the Museum in the course of an expedition in Iran.

Dr. L. R. Cox, Assistant Keeper, spent two weeks in Southern France, where he collected nearly 6,000 fossil invertebrates from classical localities in Mesozoic and Tertiary formations. Dr. E. I. White and Mr. K. P. Oakley, Assistant Keepers, obtained valuable geological material on a collecting tour in Western Germany and Russia, and visited various scientific institutions in both those countries. Mr. G. I. Crawford, Assistant Keeper, on his return from the Percy Sladen Expedition to Lake Titicaca, brought back extensive zoological collections for the Museum. An entomological expedition to British Guiana, under the leadership of Dr. O. W. Richards, of which Dr. J. Smart, Assistant Keeper, was a member, collected over 10,000 specimens of insects. Mr. A. H. G. Alston, Assistant Keeper, spent a month of his annual leave in Algeria in the company of Mr. N. D. Simpson and collected about 1,000 flowering plants and ferns, as well as other botanical material.

Miss D. M. A. Bate again visited Palestine where she continued her work on the Pleistocene of Bethlehem in conjunction with the Wellcome Archaeological Expedition to the Near East. Remains of a gigantic land tortoise, and a mammalian fossil new to this locality were found.

The Trustees made financial grants towards the following expeditions:—an entomological collecting expedition to the mountains of the Yemen, Arabia, by Dr. Hugh Scott and Mr. E. B. Britton, Assistant Keepers; Mr. F. Tangier-Smith to Western China; Miss L. E. Cheesman to Waigeu and Japen, off the coast of New Guinea; Dr. G. Taylor, Assistant Keeper, while accompanying the Sherriff-Ludlow plant-collecting expedition to Tibet; an Oxford University expedition to the Cayman Islands under the leadership of Mr. W. G. Alexander; Mr. H. G. Vavers to the Faroe; Messrs. C. G. and E. G. Bird in Greenland; an entomological collecting expedition to the Retezat Mountains, Roumania, by Baron B. Lipthay; to Cyprus by Mr. G. A. Mavromoustakis; an expedition to collect plants and insects in Southern Arabia by Mr. Amihud Grasovsky; and to Dr. F. E. Zeuner to enable him to collect insects, especially Orthoptera, in Italy.

*Loans, Exchanges, etc.*

The Trustees accepted an offer by Mr. M. E. Mosely to lodge in the Museum his very extensive collection of Trichoptera, probably the finest in existence, on condition that it remained intact and under his control for so long as he was able to utilize it.

Professor F. T. Brooks, F.R.S., of the Botany Department, Cambridge University, transferred to the Museum on permanent loan 1,745 specimens of *Rubi*, forming part of a collection made by the late Rev. W. Moyle Rogers, which at his death was divided into three, one part being given to the Department of Botany at Cambridge, the second to the Rev. H. J. Riddelsdell, and the third to the Trustees. Mr. Riddelsdell has promised his specimens, and the herbarium when thus reassembled at the Museum will be kept as a unit.

Colonel R. S. Ingham Clark placed a large collection of fossil gums and wood panels on permanent loan in the Museum.

An attractive collection of paintings of Ceylon fishes was lent by Mr. P. Deraniyagala of the Ceylon Museum, and temporarily exhibited in the Fish Gallery.

The Duke of Devonshire agreed to extend for a further three years the period of the loan to the Museum of his crystal of emerald (the largest known) for exhibition in the Mineral Gallery.

Twenty-three mounted heads and skulls of game animals were sent by the Trustees to the British Section of the International Hunting Exhibition, Berlin, and afterwards shown in the exhibition held at the Imperial Institute of the trophies returned from Berlin; four first prizes and two second prizes were awarded at Berlin to specimens from the Museum.

Holman Hunt's portrait of Sir Richard Owen was lent to Fulham Public Library for the purpose of a special exhibition of the works of Fulham artists.

The Trustees agreed to the loan of the large Otumpa meteoric iron, weighing 1,400 lb., from Argentina, with an etched slice to show internal structure, for exhibition in the British Government Pavilion of the Glasgow Empire Exhibition.

*Publications.*

The following new works were published during the year :—

*Great Barrier Reef Reports.*

Vol. I, No. 12.

Vol. V, No. 5.

*John Murray Expedition to the Indian Ocean, 1933–34. Scientific Reports.*

Vol. II, No. 2.

Vol. III, No. 1.

Vol. IV, Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8.

Vol. V, No. 1.

*Bombyliidae of Palestine by Major E. E. Austen, D.S.O.**Diptera of Patagonia and South Chile, Part VII, Fascicle 3.**Catalogue of African Hesperiidae by Brigadier W. H. Evans, C.S.I., C.I.E., D.S.O.*

Catalogue of African Bees by Professor T. D. A. Cockerell.

Monograph of the Genus *Delias*, Part VI, by G. Talbot.

Illustrated Guide to the Gallery of Fishes.

Guide to the Mineral Gallery (Fourteenth Edition).

Economic Series, No. 3—Fleas (Third Edition).

Economic Series, No. 5—The Bed-Bug (Fourth Edition).

Picture Booklet E. 58—Butterfly Migrations in the Tropics.

Catalogue of Fishes (Günther), Vols. I—VIII (Photographic reprints).

In addition to the above publications, 296 reports and descriptive papers, based on the collections, by members of the staff and others were published in scientific periodicals.

The Sub-Committee of the Trustees on Publications held several meetings and had under review the question of the issue of a scientific periodical by the Museum; the size and format of Museum publications; the works in course of preparation; the stock of publications; and other matters.

C. FORSTER-COOPER,  
*Director.*

BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY).

April, 1938.



**FOR OFFICIAL USE**



BRITISH MUSEUM AND  
BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY)

Annual Report of the  
General Progress of the Museums  
for the year 1938

With a return of the Number of Persons  
admitted to the Museums, and a Statement  
of the Principal Objects added to the  
Collections

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L O N D O N

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1939

Price 6d. net



PERSONS ADMITTED TO VIEW THE COLLECTIONS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM  
 in each Year from 1933 to 1938, both Years included.

	1933			1934			1935			1936			1937			1938		
	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	Week-day.	Sun-day.	
January ...	59,041	10,664	112,218	13,214	81,651	9,120	83,347	11,423	89,916	13,691	74,093	11,746						
February ...	54,188	8,927	78,728	13,633	72,855	10,301	83,640	11,507	80,801	12,063	67,553	10,404						
March ...	68,536	10,196	86,083	12,358	76,918	13,841	87,372	15,661	95,082	10,420	76,662	8,728						
April ...	77,714	11,835	94,606	15,094	87,145	10,355	102,214	13,102	83,439	7,661	87,164	10,536						
May ...	72,981	10,223	85,210	9,704	74,399	8,779	83,493	15,181	84,790	12,595	72,637	13,037						
June ...	82,940	11,246	74,625	8,466	86,385	12,317	101,123	* 11,096	71,929	9,498	80,030	10,375						
July ...	83,616	14,643	82,668	12,639	89,593	9,333	121,862	12,963	92,654	11,771	77,765	13,775						
August ...	98,808	10,694	100,392	13,257	101,271	9,824	106,207	14,609	95,113	12,519	90,675	12,288						
September ...	87,370	12,451	79,137	13,927	88,404	15,215	105,068	12,037	85,432	10,237	73,984	9,287						
October ...	88,806	15,862	89,240	11,157	92,767	12,911	107,376	10,199	71,747	14,750	72,378	12,176						
November ...	79,368	11,743	81,525	12,373	92,336	13,419	94,979	14,743	75,406	10,512	73,966	9,543						
December ...	85,077	14,855	80,223	12,372	88,824	15,017	94,802	10,296	73,560	8,885	73,986	6,728						
Total Number of Persons admitted to view the Gene- ral Collections	933,046	143,339	1,044,655	148,194	1,032,548	140,432	1,171,483	152,817	999,869	134,602	920,893	128,623						
			1,076,385		1,192,849		1,172,980		1,324,300		1,134,471		1,049,516					

\* North Entrance opened on June 22nd, 1936

## NUMBER OF VISITS OF STUDENTS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS

	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Reading Room	...	...	...	238,586	235,857	237,189
Hendon Repository	...	...	...	5,986	6,288	7,875
Map Room	...	...	...	1,423	1,722	1,697
State Paper Room	...	...	...	10,321	8,977	7,672
Department of Manuscripts	...	...	...	12,761	12,677	12,439
Department of Oriental Printed Books and MSS.	...	...	...	4,131	4,221	4,332
Print Room	...	...	...	10,864	11,415	12,229
Egyptian and Assyrian Department	...	...	...	1,129	824	1,221
Greek and Roman Department	...	...	...	2,047	2,264	2,288
Galleries of Sculpture	...	...	...	1,396	713	518
British and Medieval Department	...	...	...	2,130	1,909	1,810
Department of Oriental Antiquities and of Ethnography†	...	...	...	2,501	2,486	2,743
Coin and Medal Room	...	...	...	2,692	2,811	2,944
Total	...	...	...	292,476	294,591	292,038
					296,161	284,664
						298,759

† In June 1933 the Department of Ceramics and Ethnography was reconstituted.

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

*Visitors.*

The total number of visitors to the British Museum was 1,049,516, as compared with 1,134,471 in 1937. Except for slightly increased attendances in April and June, the decrease affected every month of the year. No satisfactory explanation can be offered for the lessened attendance, the lowest recorded since 1926.

The visitors attending the free lecture tours of the Official Guide Lecturers numbered 20,038 (18,501 in 1937); and the visitors conducted by the authorised unofficial guides, for whose services moderate fees are payable, numbered 8,781 as compared with 8,883 in 1937.

*Students.*

The Reading Rooms of the Library, including the Colindale Newspaper Library, the Map Room and the State Paper Room, received 241,778 visits.

The difficulties of service caused by reconstruction recorded in the Reports since 1935 continued; the number of volumes supplied to readers was 2,030,476, as compared with 1,957,382 in 1937.

42,827 manuscripts and 5,706 charters and seals were issued in the Student's Room of the Department of Manuscripts. 20,073 volumes were consulted in the Department of Oriental Printed Books and Manuscripts.

The total number of visits paid by students to the various departments of the Museum was 298,759, as compared with 312,273 in 1937.

*Photography and Casts.*

The number of books issued for photography was 4,205 (including 125 used at Colindale) and of manuscripts 2,340.

From other departments of the Museum, 3,076 objects were photographed.

162 casts and 53 new moulds were made.

In the Department of Coins and Medals, 5,900 casts and 122 electro-types have been made, and work has also been done for the Egyptian, and British and Medieval Departments.

*Studio.*

The output of the Photographic Studio is shown in the following table:—

	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Negatives ...	3,374	3,429	3,782	4,090	4,655	4,678
Prints ...	9,642	8,750	9,533	11,853	11,310	16,173
Lantern Slides ...	1,075	1,302	872	660	1,046	798
Photostats ...	21,695	22,993	24,424	24,791	23,904	19,170

*Loans of Lantern Slides.*

1,668 lantern slides were issued on loan, as compared with 2,140 in 1937.

*Micro-films.*

A further considerable increase is recorded in the use made of the apparatus recently installed for the making of micro-films, 1,146 printed books and manuscripts having been copied by this process during the year, as compared with 707 in 1937.

*Publications.*

The sales of publications were :—

	1935	1936	1937	1938
Catalogues and major publications	6,671	5,843	7,604	7,172
Guide Books     ...     ...     ...	13,866	18,034	20,612	20,308
Postcards, monochrome and coloured     ...     ...     ...	461,223	579,757	530,117	522,866
Reproductions     ...     ...     ...	19,876	16,712	19,249	19,348

The chief works issued during the year 1938 were :—

General Catalogue of Printed Books in the British Museum :—

Vol. XXI Bobe-Bona.

Vol. XXII Bona-Bost.

Vol. XXIII Bost-Boyc.

Vol. XXIV Boyd-Brek.

Subject Index of Modern Works added to the Library of the British Museum in the years 1931-1935.

Carta das Novas (Facsimile). The Discovery of Abyssinia by the Portuguese in 1520, with introduction, English translation, notes, and a transcription into modern Portuguese.

Scribes and Correctors of the Codex Sinaiticus.

The Codex Sinaiticus and the Codex Alexandrinus (Pamphlet).

Catalogue of Political and Personal Satires, Vol. VI (1784-1792).

Summary List of the Drawings and Etchings by Rembrandt.

Assyrian Sculptures : Shalmaneser III to Sennacherib.

Catalogue of Egyptian Religious Papyri, Vol. I.

Handbook to the Egyptian Mummies and Coffins.

Guide to the Maya Sculptures. (New edition.)

Guide to the Use of the Reading Room. (New edition.)

The proceeds of sales, including volumes of the new edition of the General Catalogue, amounted to £10,645 (£14,911 in 1937).

*Buildings.*

The North-East Quadrant of the Iron Library, the second to be taken in hand, has been demolished, and the site is being excavated prior to laying the foundations of the reconstruction.

The Chinese and Japanese Room was opened in October.

The furnishing of the Upper Egyptian Galleries is nearing completion; new metal wall-cases have been installed, and a new tone of staining has been applied to the old furniture.

The end wall of the original Elgin Room has been re-erected and fitted with a marble doorway.

The Second and Third Græco-Roman Galleries and the marble staircase in the King Edward VII Building have been redecorated.

#### *Temporary Exhibitions.*

A special exhibition commemorating the four-hundredth anniversary of the Injunctions of Thomas Cromwell for the setting up of the English Bible in parish churches was opened in the new Bible Room on 23rd March and withdrawn on 21st December. The exhibition of Egyptian Antiquities lent by Mr. C. S. Gulbenkian in 1936 was continued throughout the year. The following temporary exhibitions were also held:—

English Bookbindings.

Swedenborg.

John Wesley (bicentenary of his conversion).

Drawings and Etchings by Rembrandt.

Buddhist Paintings.

Antiquities from the Saxon cemeteries at Horton Kirby and Howlells, Kent.

Methods of Hafting Prehistoric Stone and Bronze Axes.

The Swanscombe Man.

Mesolithic dwellings at Farnham, Kent.

Selected notable antiquities were exhibited in the Central Saloon of the Prehistoric Room during short periods throughout the year.

#### *Representation at Congresses.*

Mr. J. Allan and Mr. Sidney Smith represented the Trustees at the International Congress of Orientalists at Brussels. Dr. R. Flower, accompanied by Mr. H. R. Aldridge and Miss M. L. Hoyle, represented the Trustees at the International Congress of Historical Studies at Zurich, which was also attended by Mr. H. Mattingly. The Trustees were represented at the Annual Conference of the Museums Association by Mr. J. Allan and Mr. C. F. C. Hawkes, and at the Annual Conference of the Library Association by Mr. A. Esdaile. Mr. L. C. Wharton attended the Conference of the International Federation for Documentation in Oxford and London.

#### *Acquisitions.*

The total number of objects added to the collections in 1938 was 458,072, more by 25,623 than in 1937, and by 26,494 than in 1936.

The figures for the several Departments were as follows :—

Printed Books :	1937	1938
Books and Pamphlets ... ...	37,942	47,541
Serials and Parts of Volumes ... ...	96,128	99,019
Maps and Atlases ... ...	2,021	1,568
Music ... ...	11,404	11,594
Newspapers (Single Numbers) ... ...	263,402	277,958
Miscellaneous ... ...	3,054	2,616
Manuscripts ... ...	302	936
Oriental Printed Books and MSS. ...	3,265	5,482
Prints and Drawings ... ...	3,335	2,384
Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities ...	881	722
Greek and Roman Antiquities ...	88	82
British and Medieval Antiquities ...	1,100	1,275
Oriental Antiquities and Ethnography ...	4,049	3,692
Coins and Medals ... ...	5,478	3,203
	432,449	458,072

Full descriptions of the more important objects acquired during the year may be found as usual in the *British Museum Quarterly*. The National Art-Collections Fund, the Friends of the National Libraries, the Contemporary Art Society, and the Christy Trustees have again added to the collections of the Museum.

The chief acquisitions of the various Departments were :—

*Printed Books.*

By donation :—

From Miss Dorothy Walker (in accordance with the wish of her late father, Sir Emery Walker) : a set of forty-five works, in fifty-six volumes, printed on vellum by William Morris at the Kelmscott Press, mostly inscribed presentation copies “to Emery Walker from William Morris.”

From Mrs. J. M. Bulloch : a collection of some fifty volumes of theatre programmes, press notices and portraits, formed by the late Dr. J. M. Bulloch, and constituting a record of the drama in London for the past half-century.

From Sir Charles Sherrington, O.M. : a further gift of early books, including the following :—

Joannes Maria Philephus, *Epistolarium nouum*, U. Gering, Paris, 1481.

*Traité de paix entre Louis XI et le duc d'Autriche*, L. Martineau, Paris, 1483.

J. P. de Ferrariis, *Practica Judicialis*, J. Suigus, Venice, 1487.

J. Faber Stapulensis, *Ars Moralis*, A. Caillault, Paris, 1494.

By purchase :—

The Book of Divers Ghostly Matters, W. Caxton, Westminster, 1491, completing the fragment in the Museum.

Raimundus Lullus, *De conceptione b. Marie Virginis*, Paulus de Colonia & Socii, Seville, 1491.

Lucius Marineus, *Epistolae illustrium Romanorum, Carmina, Federicus Basiensis, Burgos, 1497.*

Joannes Sulpitius Verulanus, *Opus grammatices, W. de Worde, Westminster, 1499.*

Stephen Hawes, *The Pastime of Pleasure, W. de Worde, London, 1509.*

Stephen Hawes, *The Comfort of Lovers, W. de Worde, London, 1511.*

C. Balista, *The Overthrow of the Gout, translated by B. G., London 1577.*

T. Procter, *A gorgious Gallery of gallant Inuentions, R. Jones, London, 1578.*

R. Edwardes, *The Paradyse of daintie Deuises, H. Dizle, London, 1580.*

A. Munday, *The Paine of Pleasure, London, 1590 ?*

*A Path-way to Penitence, J. Wolfe, London, 1591.*

*Le livre de saygesse, Pierre Vidoue pour Iehan Saint Denis & Iehan Longis, Paris, 1530 ?*

*Catalogus librorum qui hactenus a Facultate Theologiae Parisiensi diligenter examinati censuraque digni visi sunt, Antwerpiae, 1545.*

*Lucas Iansz-Wagenaer, Thresorerie ou Cabinet de la Routte Marinesque, Calais, 1601.*

### *Manuscripts.*

#### By donation :—

From the Right Hon. Viscount Wakefield of Hythe : a manuscript of French poetry, including the *Roman de Brut*, a *Miracle Play* of the Resurrection, etc., executed at Canterbury in about 1275 A.D., and three early sixteenth century heraldic manuscripts from the collection of Sir Thomas Wriothesley, Garter King-of-Arms from 1504 to 1534.

From the Royal Historical Society : nine volumes of manuscripts from the Society's library, largely of naval interest, a collection of miscellaneous charters, many relating to Essex, Papal Bulls, and an impression of the second Great Seal of Queen Victoria.

From the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, the Right Honourable Earl Winterton, M.P. : impressions of the obverse and reverse of the seals of H.M. King George VI for the Duchy and County Palatine of Lancaster.

From the Most Honourable the Marquess of Bristol : a deed relating to the manor of Oxhey Richard, co. Hertford, 1408.

From Sir Stephen Gaselee, K.C.M.G. : the autograph manuscript of "Ann Morgan's Love," by A. J. Munby.

From Sir William Carmichael Anstruther, Bart. : nine volumes of supplementary *Hyndford* papers.

From Sir Sidney Burrard, Bart. : a volume of letters from Caroline Bowles (afterwards *Southey*) to Lady Burrard and others.

From Mr. F. Cavendish Bentinck (with the consent of the Residuary Legatees) : a volume of semi-official letters to the sixth Baron Howard de Walden, as Envoy to Portugal, from Lord Palmerston and Earl Canning, 1836-1849, 1864.

From Mr. Wilfred Merton : nine volumes of papers of the first Lord Scudamore.

From Mr. G. L. Lawrence : a letter of Sir Henry Irving, 1872.

From Mrs. Stella Rose Raper : a letter of General Gordon, 1877.

From Mr. Lawrence Binyon : an autograph copy of his poem "For the Fallen."

From Mr. A. H. Godsell (as executor of the late Samuel Smith) : a volume of autograph poems of Ernest Dowson.

From Mr. Hugh Tolson : five Briefs of Pope Alexander VI, 1492-1503.

From the Curator of the Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery, Hereford : an impression of the obverse of the Seal of the Court of Common Pleas of Henry VII or VIII.

From Mr. A. E. G. Copp : a grant by Queen Elizabeth, 1602, with her Second Great Seal.

By purchase :—

The Pauline Epistles and Apocalypse, in Greek, tenth century, part of the same manuscript as Add. MS. 28875.

The Geoponica, in Greek, eleventh century.

A Charter of William II to Battle Abbey, circa 1091-1095 A.D., with Great Seal.

Geoffrey of Monmouth, *de Gestis Britorum*, with a chronicle of St. Benet's Hulme priory, etc., 13th-14th century.

Gentil Milicia, by Odoardo degli Maynardi, fourteenth century.

Lives, in Latin and English, of Robert of Knaresborough, circa 1400.

Three volumes of letters of Rainer Maria von Rilke, Hugo von Hofmannsthal, Malwida von Meysenbug, and others, to Marie Herzfeld.

By bequest :—

From Mrs. A. Pinto Leite : three autograph manuscripts of R. D. Blackmore.

#### *Oriental Printed Books and Manuscripts.*

Five Arabic manuscripts, including a Sufic treatise on the ninety-five divine attributes, biographies of famous inhabitants of Damascus, and a collection of anecdotes and verses on drinking habits in Abbasid times.

A Hebrew service book containing the Daily and Festival Prayers according to an Italian rite, with paraphrases of liturgical compositions on the festival of Pentecost, fifteenth century.

A Midhrashic commentary on the Pentateuch in Judæo-Arabic, fourteenth-fifteenth century.

A Chinese encyclopædic dictionary, copied 1567 A.D.

An atlas of coloured maps of China and some adjoining countries, with notes, in six volumes, seventeenth century.

Vidura-jātaka, inscribed on strips of palm-leaf, and illustrated with numerous finely incised drawings, eighteenth century.

Correspondence of His Imperial Majesty Nāsir ul-Dīn, Shah of Persia from 1848-1896.

The Dīvān, or collected poems of Jur'at, one of the most celebrated Hindustani poets, who died in A.D. 1810, copied in A.D. 1825.

*Prints and Drawings.*

By donation :—

From the National Art-Collections Fund : J. A. D. Ingres : Portrait group of Sir John Hay, sixth Baronet, and his sister Mary, 1816.

From the National Art-Collections Fund : Charles Shannon : Album of ninety-one sheets of studies.

By purchase :—

(Purchased with the aid of a donation from the Friends of the National Libraries) : Ackermann's Costumes of the Indian Army, engraved by J. Harris after H. Martens, 1846.

Pack of Elizabethan playing-cards, engraved 1590, illustrating the counties of England and Wales.

By exchange :—

Five Italian niello-prints of the fifteenth century, unique impressions, from the Sykes collection.

Anonymous fifteenth century Italian engraving : Troilus.

Pietro Longhi : La Caccia in Valle, sheet of studies.

Wolf Huber : The Last Judgment, 1510.

*Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities.*

By donation :—

From Lord Harlech : a bronze head of a Pharaoh, of the Ptolemaic period.

From Mr. S. L. Bernstein : an Egyptian stele of the Middle Kingdom.

From Mr. and Mrs. Alec Rea : an ivory lion, presumably of the predynastic period.

From the Sudan Government : a fragment of one of the lions in the Museum from Jebel Barkal, Sudan.

From the Egypt Exploration Society : a collection of antiquities found in excavations at Sesebi in the Sudan.

From the Secretary of State for India, with the consent of the Indian Government : a limestone memorial stone with the cuneiform inscription of Nebuchadnezzar II commonly called the "East India House Inscription."

From the Secretary of State for Air : 252 negatives and 62 prints of sites in Western Asia and Egypt.

By purchase :—

Three bronze figures of women, from Iraq, and a bronze bar, dating from about 2000 B.C.

A bronze figure of an emblematic monster, from Iraq.

Lapis lazuli head of the god Anubis, of the late dynastic period in Egypt.

Four contracts in the demotic script, on papyrus rolls, from Egypt.

By excavation :—

From Mr. M. E. L. Mallowan's excavations on behalf of the Trustees in 1938 : a valuable collection of early stamp seals, amulets, jewellery and related finds from Tell Brak.

From Sir Leonard Woolley's excavations on behalf of the Trustees in 1937 and 1938 : a collection of painted pottery, bronzes and related antiquities of the fifteenth and fourteenth centuries B.C. from Atehana.

On loan :—

Deposited by the Duke of Northumberland : The Alnwick Castle Collection of Egyptian Antiquities, including valuable Egyptian Antiquities of all kinds.

*Greek and Roman Antiquities.*

By donation :—

From Mr. G. D. Hornblower : Terracotta relief, Isis suckling the infant Horus, Romano-Egyptian.

From Dr. W. L. Hildburgh : bone toilet instrument and two dishes of pseudo-Arretine ware from a Roman tomb at Molina de Marruhal, near Cordova, Spain.

From Mr. Reginald Smith : two bowls from Gouraya, Algeria.

From the Egypt Exploration Society : eighteen Mycenaean potsherds from Sesebi, Nubia.

From Mrs. Davis, through Mr. J. R. Ogden : Aryhallos, black, with incised and painted ornament (Apulian, third century B.C.), and Guttus, black, with medallion of Hermes and infant Dionysos (Campanian, third century B.C.).

From Colonel J. V. Salvage : twelve small Minoan vases from Knossos lamp from Knossos (fourth century B.C.) and small Roman jar from Knossos.

By purchase :—

Banded Sard intaglio : two bulls reclining, late Minoan.

Sardonyx intaglio : lion and stag.

Sard intaglio : female figure with staff, stepping into prow.

Jasper intaglio : bust of Tyche of city of Mothone, with upper part of swimming river-god.

Jasper intaglio : dolphin, trident, mussel, hippocamp with face on belly.

Gold finger-ring with cornelian intaglio : combined heads of man, horse and sow, with eagle tearing horse.

Gold ear-ring : crescent with granulated ornament, 4th-3rd century B.C.

Three silver finger-rings with intaglio designs : male and female heads with flying nike ; Herakles and Nemean lion ; armed Eros facing lion.

Greek dagger, Geometric period.

Fayence head of Ptolemaic princess, probably Arsinos III Philopator. From Tell Aby Abu Mehallet, near Damashar, Lower Egypt.

Cypriote flask : black with decoration in red, middle Bronze Age.

Cypriote Askos with modelled bull's head, late Bronze Age.

*British and Mediæval Antiquities.*

By donation :—

From the National Art-Collections Fund, through the Cochrane Trust : enamelled and jewelled reliquary of rock-crystal and gold, Italian, sixteenth century.

From Mr. J. Reid Moir, F.R.S., and Mr. Reginald Smith, Dir.S.A. : collection of palæolithic flint implements illustrating flint technology and patination.

From the Swanscombe Sub-Committee of the Royal Anthropological Institute, through Mr. K. P. Oakley, F.G.S. : a series of palæolithic flint implements from the Middle Gravel at Barnfield Pit, Swanscombe, Kent.

From Mr. A. T. Marston, L.D.S., with the consent of the Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers, Ltd. : type-series of palæolithic flint implements from all strata of the 100 ft. terrace at Barnfield Pit, Swanscombe, Kent, and a complete series of Acheulean artifacts associated with the Swanscombe skull in the Middle Gravel.

From Mr. A. D. Lacaille, F.S.A., Scot. : series of palæoliths from stratified deposits at Iver, Bucks.

From Mr. T. T. Paterson : type-series representing the Barnham sequence of the Clacton palæolithic culture, from the donor's excavations at Barnham, Norfolk.

From the Master of the Rolls, Mrs. A. Fullerton and Mr. D. Barnes Brand : hoard of three neolithic axes from Peaslake, Surrey.

From Mr. Walter E. Grant : collection of finds from the Bronze Age village of Skara Brae, Skaill, Orkney, formerly on loan.

From Mr. S. Hazzledine Warren : four pointed objects from the early Bronze Age horizon on the Essex coast in the neighbourhood of Clacton, and two modern reproductions of similar "points" in the donor's collection.

From Mr. Ivan J. Thatcher and Mr. P. L. K. Schwabé : Bronze Age pottery, mostly of the Early Bronze Age, and other Bronze Age antiquities, from an occupation-site at Raffley Wood, King's Lynn, Norfolk.

From the late Captain John Ball : iron spearhead with applied bronze plates, decorated in Celtic style on the wings, from the Thames at London ; previously on loan.

From Mr. O. Gordon Lancaster : series of stone implements from the Luangwa River Valley, Northern Rhodesia.

From the Ven. Archdeacon W. E. Owen: series of stone implements from Kombewa, Kisumu, Nyandwat, Usenge and other sites in Kenya Colony.

From Mr. T. O. Morris: a small hand-axe from Yenangyaung, Burma, and palaeolithic specimens from Thayetmayo, Burma.

From Mr. O. G. S. Crawford, F.S.A.: collection of neolithic pottery from Vinca, Jugoslavia, and from pile-dwellings on Laibach Moor, Jugoslavia.

From Dr. Gerhard Bersu, Hon. F.S.A.: series of neolithic sherds and series of Byzantine unglazed pottery from Sadowetz, Bulgaria.

From Lieut.-Colonel R. K. Morcom: iron pot-hook and steelyard from a villa excavated by the donor at Dorn, Worcestershire.

From Miss Elizabeth Cross: bronze military leaf pendant, with a series of pottery sherds, etc., of the mid-first century A.D. from Beacon Hill, Harting, Sussex.

From Mr. F. J. Durban: pottery and bronze objects from the temple at Worth, Kent.

From Mr. Eric B. Birley, F.S.A.: millefiori enamel brooch, fourth century A.D., from the donor's excavations in the fort at Chesterholm, Northumberland.

From Mrs. Phillips: a collection of Byzantine weights and other small objects.

From Mr. Henry Dewey, F.G.S.: iron francisca and five sherds of hand-made pottery from the Jutish cemetery at Howletts, Kent.

From Mr. and Mrs. John Hunt: gilt-bronze strapend with silver inlay, bone comb, and two bone pins, from Lakenheath, Suffolk.

From Mr. Reginald Smith, Dir.S.A.: medieval bronze buckle, probably from Suffolk.

From Mr. Norman Clough: medieval pottery jug, unglazed, thirteenth or fourteenth century.

From Mr. G. J. Buscall Fox: bronze figure from a crucifix, late twelfth or early thirteenth century, probably German.

From Mr. G. E. Chambers, F.S.A.: horse's head-band of leather, with latten fittings, probably seventeenth century, from Chapel Farm, Wigmore, Herefordshire.

From Mrs. Golding Bright: iron axe-head with maker's marks, dated 1642, and carved wooden haft, obtained in the Hittedal district of Norway.

From Mrs. Gertrude Manderson: dish, delft, with relief design after Palissy, Lambeth, mid-seventeenth century, and silver quaich and two-handled cup, early eighteenth century.

From Mr. Wilfrid Fry: Bristol blue-and-white earthenware medallion, with view of Bristol cathedral.

From Mr. William King: glass decanter and stopper, marked "Penrose Waterford," about 1820; group typifying the Sciences in white porcelain, Vincennes, about 1750; milk-jug, porcelain, with mark of interlaced L's and 2000 in gold, Sèvres, about 1790; vase, fayence, with blue landscapes in a yellow ground, German, 1750-60; toilet pot, white porcelain, with gold decoration, Buen Retiro, about 1760.

From M. Adolphe Lion : toilet pot, fayence, with decoration in under-glaze blue and mark FB in monogram, Lille, circa 1720; covered cup and saucer, porcelain, with *gros bleu* ground and gilt decoration, Vincennes, circa 1750.

By purchase :

With the aid of the National Art-Collections Fund and the Christy Trustees : carved stem-post of a Viking ship, found at Appels, near Termonde, on the Scheldt, Belgium.

With the aid of the National Art-Collections Fund : Bronze candle-stick from Heiligenkreuz, Austria, fourteenth century; a Nuremberg glass goblet with cover in Venetian style, sixteenth century, a Nuremberg amber-glass plate, engraved, early seventeenth century, and a Bohemian glass tumbler with painted figures, about 1700.

Copper ikon with bust of Christ; Russian, dated 1594.

German engraved glass goblet, dated 1630.

Lead weight with the stamp of the Plumbers' Company, seventeenth century, found at Greenford, Middlesex.

Byzantine bronze medallion with scenes from the life of Our Lord, symbols, and an inscription, seventh–eighth century A.D.

By exchange :

From Mr. and Mrs. Norman Gask : silver spoon with "wodewose" knop, fifteenth century.

By bequest :

From Mr. Wallace Elliott : 113 objects of English pottery and porcelain.

On loan :

Deposited by Milburn Estates, Ltd., through Dr. and Mrs. F. Elgee : three dug-out funeral canoes, and various associated grave goods, from a Bronze Age burial mound at Loose Howe, Yorkshire.

*Oriental Antiquities.*

By donation :—

From the National Art-Collections Fund : gold wine-bowl inscribed with two couplets in floral Kufic and decorated with birds and arabesques. Persian, eleventh or twelfth century.

From Mr. Oscar Raphael : fragmentary bowl of lustre ware from Fostat, ninth century.

From Mr. and Mrs. Henry Winslow, in memory of the late Charles Ricketts, R.A. : Japanese painting of Amida with two Bosatsu, attributed to Tosa Mitsumasa (fourteenth century).

From Mr. E. W. Tuke : twelve Japanese prints by Kiyomitsu, Masafusa, Okumura, Masanobu, Harunobu, Harushige, Utamaro, Hiroshige, Kunisada and Yoshitora.

From Mr. A. D. Brankston: stem cup, porcelain, with nine sea-monsters in white and *an hua* among blue waves, Hsuan Te period (1426-35), and two others with underglaze blue decoration (fourteenth century); two stone-rubbings from T'ien Lung Shan; bronze figures of Siva and a disciple of Buddha, and a torso of Buddha (Siamese, ninth-sixteenth century).

From Mr. William King: porcelain cup, decorated in iron-red enamel and underglaze blue, with imitation Meissen mark, probably eighteenth century; lacquered stone head of Buddha, Khmer, eleventh century.

From the Matron of St. Thomas' Hospital, London, S.E.1: three Chinese engravings commemorating Ch'ien Lung's campaigns, and a portrait of an Empress.

By purchase:

The final instalment of the Eumorfopoulos Chinese collection.

Painting on paper of a battle-scene from the ruins of Fostat, Fatimid, twelfth century A.D.

Brass bowl engraved and inlaid with silver, Persian, circa 1300 A.D.

Thirty-six Japanese illustrated woodcut books, 1696-1836 (purchased with the aid of a contribution from the Friends of the National Libraries).

Fifty-one Japanese Kibyoshi books.

*Ethnography.*

By donation:

From the National Art-Collections Fund: a gold-plated pectoral from near a tomb at Popayan, Columbia.

From the Right Hon. Lord Moyne, P.C., D.S.O.: a large series of ancient pottery vases and scarinas, and jadeite, serpentine and rock crystal beads and amulets, excavated on the Bay Islands, Honduras.

From Professor S. R. K. Glanville: ancient pottery with pair of lizards in relief, from Montenegro Province, Colombia.

From Mr. T. A. Joyce, O.B.E.: five silver birds, perhaps pelicans, attached to a flat strip of silver, from ancient Peru.

From Miss Calverley: a Chinese style pottery vessel from Peru, and a teapot and two incised gourd vessels showing European influence, probably from Brazil.

From Lady Clarke: a pottery vase with black painted ornament, from Tiahuanaco, Bolivia.

From Captain R. P. Wild: a collection of ethnographical and archæological objects from various parts of the Gold Coast.

From Mr. H. Ruscoe Eady: three ceremonial swords from King Prempeh's palace, Ashanti; a loom handle from Ashanti; a dagger with sheath from Omdurman, and two charms and a set of ivory counters from Sudan.

From Mr. Reginald Smith: a pottery lamp with rattle handle, Aztec, and a pottery figurine, Huaxtec, Vera Cruz Province, from ancient Mexico.

From Mrs. Gann: two jade pendants, a shell pendant and a series of beads, ancient Maya, probably from Guatemala or Honduras.

## By purchase :—

Two large masks and two drums, used at boys' initiation dances, and a carved wooden figure said to be used in phallic worship, from the Mendi, Sierra Leone.

A large ethnographical collection from the Va Kwanyama, Luvando and other tribes of Southern Angola.

A large ethnographical series from the Bantu Kavirondo tribes of Kenya Colony.

An archæological series, including pottery heads and stamps, and copper and gold ornaments, from Esmeraldas Province, Ecuador, and an Ethnographical series from the Jivaro, Yumbo and Otavaleño Indians of Ecuador.

Four painted vases in Tiahuanaco II style, four blackware vases in Chinese style, and textile fragments, all from ancient Peru.

A series of ancient pottery vases of various styles and a large carved paddle from Peru, a large vase from the highlands of Ecuador; and two painted pottery vases from the Zuñi, New Mexico.

## On loan :—

A Burmese saddle with two side-pieces, a wooden slit-gong from the Sudan, a wooden drum from Ashanti, and a wooden "taiaha" staff from New Zealand, deposited on indefinite loan by H.M. the King.

A large series of antiquities from Mexico have been deposited on indefinite loan by an anonymous collector.

*Coins and Medals.*

## By donation :—

From M. Oscar Ravel: a tetradrachm of Cnossus of the fourth century B.C.

From the Right Honourable Lord Justice Clauson: ten silver coins of Southern Italy, including fine staters of Thurium, Motya, Poseidonia and Tarentum.

From Mr. E. S. G. Robinson: a unique tetradrachm of Abdera of the fifth century B.C. with new type Dionysus riding on a stag; a stater of Melos of the fifth century B.C.; a unique stater of Corinth with the letter "K" concealed on the helmet, probably an artist's signature; a fourth century tetradrachm of Ephesus of a new magistrate; a didrachm of Solus of the fifth century, hitherto only known from the Berlin specimen, and a number of interesting Carthaginian coins.

From Dr. Waldemar Wruck: a rare denarius of Faustina I, with obverse FAVSTINA AVG ANTONINI AVG (no. PP), reverse CONCORDIA.

From M. P. Tinchant: a large series, in silver and in Aes, of variants of coins previously in the Museum, mainly of the late second to third century A.D.

From Mr. Harold Mattingly and an anonymous donor: three silver coins (two gilt) from Cyprus, representing unpublished variants of Byzantine coins of about the twelfth century.

From H.M. Commissioners of Works: a hoard of 878 late Romano-British coins from Richborough, and a unique penny of Egbert, King of Wessex.

From Mr. J. B. Caldecott: 109 lead tokens of the fourteenth to sixteenth centuries.

From Mr. Hugh Wilson: the Burton Medal awarded to Sir A. T. Wilson.

From the Canning Memorial Committee, Buenos Aires: the Canning Memorial Medal.

From the Estonian Minister for Economic Affairs: a complete set of the currency of Estonia, both coin and paper money.

From Dr. C. Davies Sherborn: a very rare drachm of the Sassanian Queen Buran and a unique coin of Fakhr al-Din, leader of the Druzes.

From Professor A. R. Bellinger: two Arab Byzantine bronze coins of Scythopolis from the Jerash Find.

From Mr. C. S. Gulbenkian: four very rare mohurs of the Mogul Emperor Akbar.

By purchase:—

Two very fine distaters of Thurium, early fourth century.

A rare solidus of Antoninus Pius as 'Ruler of the World.'

A selection of fifty-three Aspers of Trebizond (Manuel I to Theodora), from a recent hoard, including many new variants of symbol.

Twelve rare mohurs of the Mogul Emperor Akbar, and one of Shah Jehan.

A unique gold mohur of Mahmud Shah Durrani, struck at Herat in 1216 A.H.

#### *Laboratory.*

Owing partly to the work involved in Air Raid Precautions, and partly to the retirement of Dr. Alexander Scott, Director of Research since the foundation of the Laboratory, and of his senior assistant, Mr. E. C. Padgham, the work of the Laboratory has been subject to a certain discontinuity throughout the year. Much of the time ordinarily available for purely scientific work has been taken up with co-operation in the training of the Museum staff in anti-gas measures, testing of protective materials and consideration of safe methods of storing all classes of museum, art gallery and library material. The main advance for the year has thus been limited to the sphere of routine technical operations.

A further quantity of material from the Department of British and Medieval Antiquities, including the Battersea Shield, various pieces of medieval silver, and armour, including guns and shields, has been treated. Analysis of the Battersea Shield led to the discovery of traces of a previously unsuspected gold decoration, and the use of an oiling process has in several cases revealed armourer's marks. As a result of the cleaning of the vestments of Walter de Cantelupe and the Emperor Henry VI, previously undecipherable patterns have been exposed, and it is likely that a correlation will be established with several other historic textiles.

Captain A. Lovett Cameron has continued to give voluntary assistance, and, by introducing a refinement into the processes of electrolysis hitherto applied, has successfully eliminated hard reduced incrustation from objects treated.

The Laboratory staff supervised the removal from Alnwick of the Duke of Northumberland's collection of Egyptian Antiquities, now deposited in the Museum on loan.

Since the introduction of a fumigating chamber in the Department of Ethnography, experiments have been carried out in the use of various insecticides. Steps have also been taken to control the conditions of humidity and temperature in storage rooms, and, in this connection, a report suggesting modifications which may be necessary in the structure of the Museum's film store is in preparation.

JOHN FORSDYKE,

*Director and Principal Librarian.*

BRITISH MUSEUM,  
*April, 1939.*

PERSONS ADMITTED TO VIEW THE COLLECTIONS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY) in each Year from 1933 to 1938, both Years included

## NUMBER OF VISITS TO PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF STUDY.

	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Zoology (including Art Students)	13,828	15,019	14,334	13,911	15,126	11,459
Entomology	4,589	4,862	5,160	4,427	3,424	3,564
Geology	...	...	2,450	2,113	2,246	2,149
Mineralogy	...	...	423	661	866	938
Botany	...	...	4,210	3,842	3,904	3,506
General Library	...	545	849	975	903	822
Total	25,359	27,683	27,247	25,859	26,228	21,374

## GENERAL PROGRESS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY).

The total number of visitors during 1938 was 528,183, an increase of 7,720 on the figure for 1937. The visitors on Sunday afternoons numbered 117,381, as compared with 109,463 for the previous year. The number of persons attending the tours of the Official Guide Lecturers during 1938 was 22,901, a decrease of 990 on the figure for 1937.

The weekly biology broadcasts for school children, received in the Board Room, and followed by short tours of the galleries to illustrate the lectures, were attended by 1,234 children during the year. Special "follow-up" tours were also arranged for 398 children who had listened to the broadcasts elsewhere.

Dr. Frederick Walker gave the annual course of Swiney Lectures at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, from 28th November to 23rd December, 1938, taking as his subject "The Evolution of Scenery." The average attendance at the lectures was 51.

Dr. C. Tate Regan, F.R.S., retired from the Directorship, and was succeeded by Dr. C. Forster-Cooper, F.R.S., at the beginning of February.

Mr. W. N. Edwards was appointed to the Keepership of the Department of Geology, on the retirement of Dr. W. D. Lang, F.R.S. Mr. G. J. Arrow, Deputy Keeper in the Department of Entomology, retired; and Dr. E. I. White and Mr. F. A. Bannister, Assistant Keepers, were appointed Deputy Keepers in the Departments of Geology and Mineralogy, respectively.

The British Museum Act, 1938, empowered the Trustees to accept the late Lord Rothschild's bequest of his Museum at Tring, and the administration of the Tring Museum, with its former staff, was taken over by the Trustees on 21st September.

The removal of the fish collections from the old to the new Spirit Building was completed in November, 1938. The old building thus became available for demolition to make way for the completion of the North Block, but in the meantime is being used temporarily for various purposes.

Plans have been approved by the Trustees for the completion of the West Block which was to have been begun in December, but owing to the pre-occupation of H.M. Office of Works with defence services, the constructional work had not been started by the end of the year. The question of the use to which the building will be put is closely bound up with the way in which the Tring Museum is to be used, and a scheme of transference of material between South Kensington and Tring has been approved by the Trustees. Among other important changes proposed are the transference of the entomological collections at Tring to the West Block, which would then be entirely devoted to entomology; and the transfer of the study collections of mammals and of birds to Tring.

Much time and thought were devoted during the year to the elaboration of plans for the protection of the Museum collections in the event of war.

### *Exhibition Galleries.*

Since taking up his appointment the Director has given personal attention to measures designed to meet the serious need for the modernization and improvement of the exhibition galleries, and arrangements

have been made for a number of members of the departmental staffs to assist in this work. Progress was made during the year with the rearrangement of the exhibits in the Central and North Halls, and the preparation was begun of plans for a re-arrangement of some of the Invertebrate Galleries and for an entirely new Insect Gallery. Owing to circumstances beyond control the rate at which these proposed alterations has proceeded has been somewhat retarded.

In the Department of Zoology, the most notable addition to the exhibition was a life-sized model of a ninety-foot Blue Whale. Technical advice was given by H.M. Office of Works in connexion with the construction of the framework and suspension of this model, which is exhibited in the Whale Hall.

In the Department of Geology, a skeleton of the small rhinoceros, *Diceratherium cooki*, from the Miocene of Nebraska, was mounted and placed in the Fossil Mammal Gallery. An exhibit of Carboniferous and Liassic fishes was arranged, including a systematic series, and the British Corallian gastropods and lamellibranchs, and the Cretaceous and Tertiary brachiopods were rearranged.

In the Department of Mineralogy, five cases outside the entrance to the gallery have been rearranged and now contain exhibits of large crystals of beryl and of calcite, queer forms of basalt lava, and two new meteorite exhibits. The Otumpa meteoritic iron, weighing 1,400 lb. has been set up near these cases. The fluorescence exhibit has been improved by the provision of a new ultra-violet lamp burning continuously from 11.0 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Inside the gallery the plan of internal lighting of wallcases was continued. A new exhibit was arranged to illustrate crystal structure and crystal symmetry and the exhibit of diamonds was improved. A book, containing brief descriptions of the common minerals, has been provided for public reference.

#### *Study Collections.*

The usual work of naming, labelling, registering and incorporating accessions has continued in all Departments. As in previous years, the Trustees are much indebted to numerous workers who have given their services voluntarily, many of whom worked continuously throughout the year. Research workers were given access to the collections, and were assisted in their investigations.

In the Department of Zoology the most important change in the study collections was the removal of the entire fish collection from the old to the new spirit building, during which many of the bottles were refilled with fresh spirit. Much labelling and indexing of this collection still remains to be done. The working out of large and important accessions from various Antarctic and other expeditions occupied a great deal of the time of the staff of the Department.

In the Department of Entomology the reorganization of the British collections of Lepidoptera, Diptera and Hymenoptera was further advanced and considerable taxonomic work was carried out on the Diptera, accompanied by work on the collections brought back by the Ruwenzori and British Guiana expeditions. In the Lepidoptera the arrangement of the Nymphalidae and Hesperiidae is now practically up to date. The Microlepidoptera were enriched by the extremely valuable Edward Meyrick collection of over 100,000 specimens. Work on the Coleoptera was mainly confined to Carabidae, Cerambycidae, and

Hydrophilidæ and the incorporation of the Bourgoin collection of Cetoniidæ. On the Hymenoptera, further progress was made with the revision of the sawflies and rearrangements were made in many different sections. The collection was enriched by 40,000 parasitic Hymenoptera collected in Sweden during the year. In the Hemiptera, revisions of the Cimicidæ of the world and of British Hemiptera as a whole were considerably advanced. On the Orthoptera, apart from minor rearrangements, time was chiefly spent on a revision of the African collections. The most noteworthy event in the whole history of the Neuroptera, Odonata and Trichoptera collections occurred during the year, namely, the purchase of the McLachlan collection. Work has been devoted almost exclusively to the incorporation of this material and of that received from the late Professor Tillyard. Close collaboration has continued with the Imperial Institute of Entomology.

In the Department of Geology much work was done on the Mesozoic and Tertiary shark remains; Inferior Oolite gastropods and lamellibranchs; the non-European Cainozoic gastropods and lamellibranchs; liparoceratids from the Lias; and on Tertiary plants from Mull. The thin sections of fossils cut in the Department during the year for purposes of study numbered 289.

In the Department of Mineralogy, 286 X-ray photographs of various minerals were taken in the course of identifications and research, and 426 thin sections of rocks and meteorites were prepared. The more important of the minerals studied and reported on were osbornite (a very rare mineral occurring in some meteorites), francolite, russellite (a new mineral), kaolinite, chamosite, thuringite, and various chlorites. Collections of rocks from Arabia, Burma, West Greenland, Kenya, and South Victoria Land (Antarctica) were specially studied. In the oceanographical section, work on the bottom samples collected by the Murray Expedition to the Indian Ocean was continued. Chemical work has been at a standstill on account of the complete overhaul of the laboratory which is still in progress.

In the Department of Botany, work consisted mainly in the naming and incorporation of collections and the continuation of monographic work on several genera and families. Among the specimens named during the year were collections of flowering plants from Europe, the Arctic, Jan Mayen, Newfoundland, the Cayman Islands, West Indies, East Indies, and parts of Africa; fresh-water algæ and diatoms from Asia Minor and the Arctic; lichens from the Arctic, Antarctic, and Australasia; and fungi collected by various expeditions.

#### *Congresses, etc.*

Dr. C. Forster-Cooper, F.R.S., has accepted the office of a Trustee of the National Museum of Wales, in succession to Dr. Regan. He has also been elected an honorary member of the General Organizing Committee for the Eighteenth International Geological Congress, to be held in London in 1940; and has been appointed to represent the Trustees on a Committee of the Economic Advisory Council which is considering the possibility of international action for the protection of the fauna and flora of Asia. Besides Dr. Forster-Cooper, Lieut.-Colonel W. Campbell Smith, M.C., T.D., and Mr. W. N. Edwards have been appointed to represent the Trustees at the forthcoming International Geological Con-

gress. Mr. N. D. Riley and Mr. R. B. Benson were the official Museum delegates to the Seventh International Entomological Congress, Mr. Riley representing also His Majesty's Government. Mr. A. H. G. Alston attended the first South American Botanic Assembly at Rio de Janeiro in a similar capacity. Mr. W. N. Edwards, Keeper of the Department of Geology, was the Museum delegate to the Annual Conference of the Museums Association held at Belfast. At the International Ornithological Congress at Rouen in May, the Museum was represented by Mr. P. R. Lowe (formerly an Assistant Keeper) and Mr. J. D. Macdonald. Mr. L. Bairstow represented the Trustees at the Centenary Meeting of the Yorkshire Geological Society. At the International Geographical Congress held at Amsterdam in July, Dr. J. D. H. Wiseman acted as rapporteur for the Oceanographical Section. Mr. A. J. Wilmott was appointed as the botanical representative of the Trustees on a Committee set up by the Royal Meteorological Society to supervise phenological work. Mr. N. D. Riley already represented the Museum on the same conference as an entomologist. The British Association's Meeting at Cambridge in August was attended by several members of the scientific staff.

#### *Advisory and Economic Activities.*

Numerous economic inquiries from private individuals, business firms, and public authorities and departments were again dealt with. Those received in the Department of Zoology were concerned chiefly with the extermination of destructive and noxious mammals; advice was given also on polyzoa in water-works and on the incrustation of piers, lighters, etc., by a serpulid polychaete. In the Department of Entomology special interest was taken in measures to deal with bed-bugs and crickets, resulting in the beginning of world-wide recognition of the methods advocated in that Department for the control of the former pest.

A suggestion was received through the British Association for the Advancement of Science that the Museum should take steps for the collection of data concerning the movements of marine turtles. As it appeared that a number of turtles was stranded yearly on the British coasts, the Board of Trade has been approached with a view to such strandings being reported to the Museum in the same way as those of whales by coastguards and Receivers of Wreck.

The Trustees continue to take an active interest in the subject of the pollution of the sea by oil. Lord Ilchester's questions in the House of Lords early in the year elicited the information that steps were being taken to increase the number of separator barges in use in the commercial harbours of Great Britain, and that His Majesty's ships and Royal Fleet auxiliaries were forbidden to discharge oil or oily matter into the sea within fifty miles of the coast.

Advice was given to the Foreign and Colonial Offices regarding collecting expeditions; to the Colonial Office on the subjects of the protection of the St. Helena Pheasant and the Cyprus Moufflon, and on measures for controlling rats and mice on St. Helena; and assistance was given to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in connexion with escapes of Nutria in Great Britain, and the suspected infection by Colorado Beetle of a small area in the neighbourhood of Tilbury Docks.

*General Library.*

During the year 279 new books, 156 volumes of periodicals and 30 maps were acquired by purchase or presentation, 50 of the periodicals being new to the Library. The cataloguing of accessions for the whole Museum was carried out in the General Library, 1,879 books and 18 maps having been dealt with during 1938.

Among the gifts received were :—

From Sir Douglas Mawson, F.R.S. : Reports of the British Australasian and New Zealand Antarctic Research Expedition (1929-31).

From Madame Helena Holmberg di Ambrosetti : a copy of "El Naturalista Argentino," tom. I (1878).

From Mr. Anthony Belt : 180 autograph letters (1869-78) to Thomas Belt, author of "The Naturalist in Nicaragua."

From Mr. Hatherley Clarke : 33 letters (1920-22) from W. J. Wintle to B. B. Woodward on the natural history of Caldey Island, with maps and photographs.

From Miss M. S. Johnstone : holograph letter of Hugh Miller, geologist.

*Additions to the Collections.*

The number of acquisitions in the several Departments during the year, apart from specimens received too late for incorporation and from books, was as follows :—

Department.	Purchases.	Donations, etc.	Total.
Zoology ... ...	5,537	21,273	26,810
Entomology ... ...	141,943	210,382	352,325
Geology ... ...	1,149	17,192	18,341
Mineralogy ... ...	464	1,970	2,434
Botany ... ...	18,979	60,388	79,367
Totals ... ...	168,072	311,205	479,277

*Donations.*

The total number of presents received during the year was 3,178, among the more interesting of them being :—

*General.*

From Lord Moyne, P.C., D.S.O. : zoological collections from various localities made during a cruise of his yacht "Rosaura," comprising species new to the Museum collections together with a large collection of marine invertebrates likely to prove of considerable scientific importance.

From Mrs. W. Livingstone-Learmonth : four volumes of MS diaries of her late husband, Mr. Walter Livingstone-Learmonth, illustrated by photographs and forming a valuable record of a past phase of whaling.

*Zoology.*

From Mr. G. H. Caton-Haigh: a valuable collection of British mammals and birds.

From Major P. H. G. Powell-Cotton and Mr. Christopher Powell-Cotton: a collection of skins and skeletons of mammals from South-West Africa and Southern Angola.

*Entomology.*

From Professor E. Hindle: 2,000 British Diptera from the J. J. F. W. King collection.

*Geology.*

From Miss Alice Gray and her sister: four interesting MS volumes relating to the Mrs. Robert Gray collection of Girvan fossils.

From the Chairman and Directors of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company: a large series of rock specimens collected by Dr. J. V. Harrison in Iran, illustrating the complicated geological structure of that region.

From Mr. A. T. Marston: the occipital and left parietal bones of a human braincase, known as the Swanscombe skull, with other vertebrate remains and invertebrate fossils from the Pleistocene of Swanscombe, Kent.

*Mineralogy.*

From Dr. E. S. Simpson: a fine set of minerals from Western Australia, including large masses of petalite and its alteration product from a feldspar quarry near Coolgardie; pieces of the meteoric irons kumerina and wonyulgunga; and a plaster cast of an "australite" seen to fall at Cottisloe, near Perth.

*Botany.*

From Mr. R. W. de Feachem: 382 prepared plants collected on the Wordie Arctic Expedition.

From the organisers of the Imperial College of Science (Jan Mayen) Expedition; 427 well preserved plants collected by Dr. R. Scott Russell.

From the Public Schools Exploring Society; a collection of 207 plants from Newfoundland.

From Mrs. D. Lee: 426 coloured drawings, including the originals of the illustrations of the "Flowers of the Engadine," by her father, the late E. D. Heathcote.

From Miss B. O. Corfe: 339 paintings of British plants.

From Mr. H. E. Box: a further collection (supplementary to that presented by him in 1937) of 400 flowering plants and ferns from Antigua and the adjacent islands.

*Bequests.*

The late Mr. Edward Meyrick bequeathed to the Museum his important collection of Lepidoptera, estimated to contain some 100,000 specimens, including many thousands of types, particularly of Micro-lepidoptera, upon which Mr. Meyrick was an authority.

A fine collection of Rhodesian and East African mounted game trophies was received under the Will of the late Mr. Norman B. Smith.

The late Mr. J. F. Hanbury bequeathed to the Museum his fine herbarium containing valuable voucher material for a considerable number of records, and a fine series of the genus *Hieracium* including the collection of James Backhouse, the first monographer of the genus in Britain. Mr. Hanbury also bequeathed all his interests in the London Catalogue of British Plants, together with a legacy of £100, to the Keeper of the Department of Botany, Mr. A. J. Wilmott, Deputy Keeper, and Mr. H. W. Pugsley.

The late Mr. Nevil Masterman bequeathed to the Museum a general collection of natural history specimens and books, the latter including a number not previously represented in the Museum Library.

#### *Purchases.*

Important purchases included a valuable collection from Nepal of 2,200 birds, belonging to 270 species, with carefully recorded localities; a collection of fish otoliths consisting of about 2,300 specimens, many of which had been figured and described; the original pattern plates of Hübner's "Exotischer Schmetterlinge" and "Zutrage zur Sammlung exotischer Schmetterlinge"; the Robert McLachlan collection of Neuroptera, comprising 50,000 specimens, including 500 types, the most important of its kind ever formed in this country; 56 fossil mammalian remains from the Lower Miocene of Kenya Colony, including types and figured specimens; a flawless step-cut wine-yellow danburite of gem quality from the Ruby Mines, Mogok, Burma; part of the herbarium belonging to C. Christensen, consisting of 2,800 specimens of ferns; a collection of 2,531 flowering plants from Mexico; and 2,000 drawings of fungi by Dr. B. Knauth.

#### *Collecting Expeditions.*

Dr. Carrisso's botanical expedition to Angola in 1937, of which Mr. A. W. Exell, Assistant Keeper, was a member, collected some 30,000 specimens of which one set (approximately 5,150 plants, the greater number of which have already been received) is coming to the Museum. After the death of Dr. Carrisso and the consequent closing of the expedition, Mr. Exell continued to collect in the company of Dr. J. Gossweiler. Mr. Vladimir Martino, as a result of his collecting trip to Jugoslavia in 1937, sent to the Museum interesting collections of mammals and birds. Baron B. Liphthay's collecting tour in Rumania in 1937 resulted in the acquisition of 4,500 insects in excellent condition. Captain F. Kingdon-Ward collected 980 specimens of plants for the Museum in Western China. Mr. H. D. Jordan's expedition to Finmark resulted in the acquisition of 350 plants. Mr. W. G. Alexander brought back 678 flowering plants and 614 cryptogams for the Museum from the Cayman Islands.

Dr. H. Scott and Mr. E. B. Britton, Assistant Keepers, who returned in March from an expedition to the Yemen, South-West Arabia, brought back a satisfactory entomological collection, and 582 excellent herbarium specimens from a region which was little known botanically. Dr. G. Taylor, Assistant Keeper, returned in December from a most successful botanical expedition to Bhutan and Tibet. Mr. P. M. Game, Assistant Keeper, collected about 300 rock and mineral specimens, while on the

Cambridge West Greenland Expedition, 1938; and Mr. R. W. de Feachem collected 465 plants for the Museum on the same expedition.

The Percy Sladen Trustees have presented the large zoological and botanical collections brought back by the Lake Titicaca Expedition, 1937, of which Mr. G. I. Crawford, Assistant Keeper, was a member. The Linnean Society of London has agreed that a volume of their transactions shall be devoted to the publication of the results of the expedition.

The Trustees undertook to bear, jointly with the Trustees of the Percy Sladen Fund, the cost of the British share in a projected Swedish-British-Norwegian geological collecting expedition to Spitzbergen, under the leadership of Professor A. E. Stensiö, of Stockholm. The resulting collections will be shared between the British, the Stockholm, and the Oslo Museums.

The Trustees are co-operating in a general nutritional survey of Africa, organized by the Colonial Office, by granting Dr. Ethelwynn Trewavas, Assistant Keeper, who has great knowledge of the fishes of the African lakes, six months' special leave to accompany an expedition for the purpose of making a survey of the fishery resources of Lake Nyasa. Biological and statistical investigations will be undertaken by Dr. Trewavas and Miss C. K. Ricardo, with local assistance. It is expected that a substantial addition to the Museum collection of fishes will result from the expedition, and the Trustees made a contribution to the expenses of the survey.

The Trustees also made financial grants towards the expenses of the survey of the birds of Ceylon; to Mr. J. D. Macdonald, Assistant Keeper, while on a collecting expedition to the Southern Sudan; to an expedition to Waigeu and Japen, New Guinea, by Miss L. E. Cheesman; to Mr. A. H. G. Alston, Assistant Keeper, while on a botanical collecting expedition to Trinidad, Venezuela, and Colombia; to the collecting of insects in Cyprus by Mr. G. A. Mavromoustakis; to Dr. R. Scott Russell, who is collecting for the Museum, on an expedition led by Mr. E. E. Shipton to the Karakoram and Himalaya Mountains and Central Asia; to a botanical collecting expedition to the island of St. Lucia, by Mr. H. E. Box; to Mr. O. Grebenchikoff, of Belgrade, in collecting insects for the Museum in Southern Greece; and to the last of three joint entomological expeditions with the Colombo Museum, to Southern India, conducted by Mr. G. M. Henry.

#### *Exchanges, etc.*

Specimens have been exchanged with and duplicate specimens presented to a large number of institutions and individuals.

#### *Publications.*

The following new works were published during the year:—

Great Barrier Reef Reports.

Vol. VI, No. 1.

John Murray Expedition Reports.

Vol. IV, No. 9.

Vol. V, Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7.

A Systematic Review of the Genus *Phylloscopus* (Willow Warblers), by Dr. C. B. Ticehurst.

Mosquitoes of the Ethiopian Region, Part II, by Dr. A. M. Evans.  
The British Mosquitoes, by J. F. Marshall.

Monograph of the Liassic Ammonites (*Liparoceratidæ*), by Dr. L. F. Spath.

The British Rhætic Flora, by Professor T. M. Harris.

Summary Guide to the Exhibition Galleries (Fifth Edition).

Instructions for Collectors :—

No. 2.—Birds and their Eggs (Eighth Edition);  
No. 13.—Alcohol and Alcoholometers (Second Edition).

Economic Series :—

No. 7A.—Biology of Waterworks by Dr. A. B. Hastings;  
No. 12.—The Cockroach.

In addition to the above publications, 306 reports and descriptive papers, based on the collections, by members of the staff and others were published in scientific periodicals.

C. FORSTER-COOPER,  
*Director.*

BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY).

1st April, 1939.









